



PORTS and MARITIME AFFAIRS

EMAIL: Ship_registry@mtt.gov.bh WEBSITE: http://www.mtt.gov.bh

Directive No. STCW/06

**ISSUE OF BAHRAINI NATIONAL CERTIFICATES FOR
GMDSS RADIO OPERATOR, RATING OR ABLE SEAFARER**

Issued under the enabling power of the Ministerial Resolution 6/2001
and including STCW 2010 Manila Amendments

1. General

The Bahrain Merchant Shipping (Training, Certification, Manning and Watch-keeping) Regulations 6/2001 require that all seafarers trained under the STCW Chapter II, III and IV are required to be duly certified.

The International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers 1978, as amended (STCW), requires that a contracting party verifies the competence of seafarers who holds certificates issued by that party.

This Directive gives guidance on Bahraini Certificate of Competency (CoC) and Bahraini Certificate of Proficiency (CoP) which the Ports and Maritime Affairs (PMA) will issue to seafarers who satisfy the STCW Chapter IV requirements as GMDSS Radio Operators and Bahraini Certificate of Proficiency which the PMA will issue to seafarers who satisfy the STCW Chapter II or III requirements as Ratings or Able Seafarers.

2. Application

This Directive applies to:

- Seafarers applying to serve onboard Bahraini ships and Companies providing seafarers to Bahraini ships.
- Non- Bahraini nationals maybe considered for certification as Ratings, Able Seafarers and GMDSS Radio Operators at the discretion of the PMA.



3. Definition

The following definitions apply for the purposes of this directive:

“Company” is the entity that is either designated under SOLAS 1974, as amended, Chapter IX/1.2 which assumes the duties and responsibilities imposed by International Safety Management (ISM) Code or, where ISM is not applicable, the entity who has accepted responsibility for the assignment of seafarers for service onboard Bahraini registered ships in accordance with the provisions of STCW Regulation I/14;

“Ship” is any vessel or unit registered with The PMA.

“Approved training book” means a record document that the PMA has approved as documentary evidence. The training book shall fulfil the conditions for training as set out in the STCW. The training book must be properly filled in by the training officer and countersigned by the master or the chief engineer for deck and engine training respectively;

“Approved training” is training that satisfies the requirements of STCW and has been approved by The PMA or an STCW party with whom The PMA has a STCW recognition Memorandum of Understanding;

“Master” shall be deemed to be the person designated by the Company as having overall responsibility for the ship.

4. Requirement for issue of Certificate

Each application MUST include the following, in order to be processed:

- 1) Proof of age and identity,
- 2) Valid medical certificate. This document must be issued by a medical practitioner approved in The PMA or by a country that is party to STCW,
- 3) A duly completed application form which shall be signed by the seafarer and where applicable, the Company submitting the application,



- 4) 2 original passport size photographs,
- 5) Evidence of approved seagoing service and competence as required for the appropriate certificate. STCW requires that the seafarer shall have the minimum knowledge, understanding and competency/proficiency required for the appropriate certificate. The PMA requires that documentary evidence is provided relating to competence achieved by the following methods:
 - In-service experience (seagoing). This information (name and IMO number of ship, capacity that the applicant served, dates served) may be provided as an extract from a seaman record book, copy of certificate of discharge or letter from the Company,
 - Training-ship experience,
 - Practical training,
 - Simulator training,
 - Laboratory equipment training.

For the purpose of verifying competency based on experience and/or training, the PMA will require a record of approved seagoing service which should be relevant to the appropriate certificate. The sea service record should include the following information:

- 1) Name of person,
- 2) Vessel details: IMO no., Gross tonnage, Engine power,
- 3) Capacity onboard,
- 4) Joining and leaving dates,
- 5) Voyage description.

The sea service information should be recorded in a discharge book (Seaman Record Book) or certificates signed by the Master or Chief Engineer (in the case of Engineering candidates only) of the respective ships and bear the stamp of the respective ship.

In the absence of a discharge book or certificate, a letter from the Company



containing the information on approved seagoing service may be acceptable. The letter should be on company letterhead with full contact details and signed by a responsible official of the Company.

In addition to the above, cadets/apprentices/trainee ratings or any applicant undergoing supervised training should ensure that any assigned tasks/duties are endorsed by a certificated Officer and recorded in an approved training record book. The officer endorsing such tasks/duties should also provide his Certificate of Competency number, issuing authority and full name along with his/her signature. The PMA will accept International Shipping Federation (ISF) onboard training book as an approved training record book.

Applicants should note that service onboard Tankers, Passenger Ships, Offshore Units, High Speed Craft and ships, to which the ISPS Code applies, require additional training.

Once the application is received, it will be processed and the PMA will issue a Bahraini Certificate to the applicant if all requirements are satisfied.

5. Certification as GMDSS Radio Operator under STCW regulation IV/2

In addition to the general information specified in Section 4, the applicant shall provide the following

- 1) Documentary evidence of having completed Basic Training in accordance with STCW A-VI/1, and
- 2) Documentary evidence of compliance with STCW A-IV/2. If the training was undertaken outside of Bahrain, the applicant should be assessed by the Maritime Administration of the country where the training was carried out and the applicant shall provide documentary evidence issued by the Maritime Administration stating that the candidate has satisfied the standards required for issue of similar certificate in that country.

A satisfactory assessment by the PMA may be required. The assessment will



cover The Bahrain radio legislations and STCW requirements related to the GMDSS Radio Operator.

6. Certification as a Rating forming part of a Navigational watch under STCW II/4

In addition to the general information specified in Section 4, the applicant shall provide the following:

- 1) Documentary evidence of having completed Basic Training in accordance with STCW A-VI/1, and
- 2) Documentary evidence of compliance with STCW A-II/4. This maybe a certificate from an approved training centre stating that applicant has successfully completed a course of study equating to STCW A-II/4 and having met the required standards; and
- 3) Documentary evidence of either:
 - a) at least 6 months sea service in the deck department (as a trainee rating) of which at least 2 months shall be on duties associated with navigational watch-keeping on the bridge under the supervision of a certificated deck officer and an assessment report (Annex-1) or ISF Training Record Book signed by the trainer /master of the ship of having met the standard specified in STCW A-II/4, OR
 - b) Approved special training, either pre-sea or on board ship in the deck department (as a trainee rating), including an approved period of seagoing service which shall not be less than two months.

7. Certification as an Able Seafarer Deck under STCW regulation II/5

In addition to the general information specified in Section 4, the applicant shall provide the following:

- 1) Documentary evidence of having obtained a Rating forming part of a Navigational Watch Certificate of Proficiency under STCW II/4, and



- 2) Documentary evidence of compliance with the requirements of STCW A-II/5. This may be in the form of:
 - a certificate from an approved training centre Or
 - a completed training record book that has been duly signed. The PMA will accept the ISF Training Record Book.
- 3) Documentary evidence of having performed at least 18 months sea service since obtaining a STCW II/4 certificate. This may be reduced to 12 months if the person has completed approved training.
- 4) Documentary evidence of successful completion of training in Proficiency in Survival Craft & Rescue Boat (STCW VI/2) within last 5 years.

8. Certification as Rating forming part of Engine-room Watch under STCW regulation III/4

In addition to the general information specified in Section 4, the applicant shall provide the following:

- 1) Documentary evidence of having completed Basic Training in accordance with STCW A-VI/1; and
- 2) Documentary evidence of compliance with STCW A-III/4. This maybe a certificate from an approved training centre stating that applicant has successfully completed a course of study equating to STCW A-II/5 and having met the required standards.
- 3) Documentary evidence of either:
 - a) at least 6 months sea service in the engine department (as a trainee rating) of which at least 2 months on duties associated with watch-keeping in the engine-room under supervision of a certificated engineer officer and an assessment report (*Annex-2*) or ISF Training Record Book signed by the trainer /Chief Engineer of the ship of having met the standard specified in STCW A-III/4, OR



- b) Approved special training, either pre-sea or on board ship in the Engineering department (as a trainee rating), including an approved period of seagoing service which shall not be less than two months. This evidence maybe in the form of a completed training record book that has been duly signed by the Chief Engineer. The PMA will accept the ISF Training Record Book.

9. Certification as Able Seafarer Engine under STCW regulation III/5

In addition to the general information specified in Section 4, the applicant shall provide the following:

- 1) Documentary evidence of having obtained Rating forming part of Engine-room Watch Certificate of Proficiency under STCW III/4,
- 2) Documentary evidence of compliance with to STCW A-III/5. This maybe in the form of:
 - a certificate from an approved training centre Or
 - a completed training record book that has been duly signed. The PMA will accept the ISF Training Record Book.
- 3) Documentary evidence of having performed at least 18 months sea service since obtaining a STCW III/4 certificate. This may be reduced to 12 months if the person has completed approved training.

10. Certification as Electro-Technical Rating STCW regulation III/7

In addition to the general information specified in Section 4, the applicant shall provide the following:

- 1) Documentary evidence of having completed Basic Training (STCW A-VI/1),
- 2) Documentary evidence of compliance with STCW A-III/7. This maybe in the form of:
 - a certificate from an approved training centre or



- a completed training record book that has been duly signed. The PMA will accept the ISF Training Record Book.
- 3) Documentary evidence of either:
- a) at least 12 months sea service in the engine department (as a trainee electro-technical rating) of which at least 4 months on duties associated with watch-keeping in the engine-room under supervision of an electro-technical officer or a certificated engineer officer, **OR**
 - b) at least 6 months specialised training in the engine department (as a trainee Electro-Technical Rating) of which at least 2 month on duties associated with watch-keeping in the engine-room under the supervision of an Electro-Technical Officer or a certificated engineer officer, **OR**
 - c) at least 3 months sea service and qualification at a support level with the functional competence of Engineering (electrical, electronic, control, maintenance and repair).

11. Revision history:

Revision No. 2 of the present Directive supersedes the Directives Number 6 and 10, which was published by the President of Customs and Ports on 24th October 2001.

Hassan Afif Al Majed
Undersecretary for Ports and Maritime Affairs
16th August 2016



ANNEX - 1

PORTS and MARITIME AFFAIRS

Form of Assessment of a seafarer for issue of a
NAVIGATIONAL WATCH-RATING CERTIFICATE

Name of Company: _____

Contact Details: Tel: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

Name of Ship*: _____ GT: _____

kW: _____

Name of Seafarer: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Discharge Book/ Passport Number**: _____

*Last or present vessel **Delete as required

The following check-list is to be used to assess the competence of the seafarer:

1. Has he undertaken the following Basic Training and produced evidence to this effect in original?

***Please write 'Y' or 'N' as appropriate

- a. Personal Survival Techniques:
- b. Fire prevention and Fire-fighting;
- c. Elementary First-Aid;
- d. Personal Safety & Social responsibility.

***Yes	***No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Has he undertaken Familiarisation Training?

- a. General layout of the ship & escape route;
- b. Emergency escape from Engine-room & other locations;
- c. Location of emergency equipment;
- d. Muster list duties & functions.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



3. Steered ship using both Gyro and Magnetic compasses?
4. Steered ship complying with helm orders in English?
5. Changed steering over from automatic pilot to hand steering and vice versa?
6. Shown ability to keep a proper look-out by sight and hearing?
7. Shown knowledge of information required to maintain a safe watch?
8. Shown ability to report to the Officer of the Watch in approximate degrees and points the position of a light, sound or object?
9. Understood shipboard terms, definitions and navigational vocabulary?
10. Shown familiarity with internal communication and alarm systems?
11. Shown ability to understand orders and communicate clearly with the Officer of the Watch in matters relating to watch-keeping duties?
12. Shown ability to display flag signals as advised by OOW?
13. Shown ability to relieve, maintain and hand-over a watch following accepted practices and procedures?
14. Shown knowledge of man overboard signal and release of buoy, use of pyrotechnic signals carried on board?
15. Shown knowledge of the use of EPIRB and SART?
16. Shown knowledge of the avoidance of false- distress alerts and actions to be taken to remedy an accidental activation?
17. Shown awareness of environmental protection and knowledge of procedures to be followed?

Name of Assessor

Signature

Designation

Date

Stamp



ANNEX – 2

PORTS and MARITIME AFFAIRS

Form of Assessment of a seafarer for issue of a
ENGINE-ROOM WATCH-RATING CERTIFICATE

Name of Company: _____

Name of Ship*: _____ GT: _____

kW: _____

Name of Seafarer: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Discharge Book/ Passport Number** _____

*Last or present vessel

**Delete as required

The following check-list is to be used to assess the competence of the seafarer:

1. Has s/he undertaken the following Basic Training and produced evidence to this effect in original?

- a. Personal Survival Techniques;
- b. Fire prevention and Fire-fighting;
- c. Elementary First-Aid;
- d. Personal Safety & Social responsibility.

***Yes	***No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Has s/he undertaken Familiarisation Training?

- a. General layout of the ship & escape route;
- b. Emergency escape from Engine-room;
- c. Location of emergency equipment;
- d. Muster list duties & functions.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Does s/he have adequate knowledge of machinery & equipment and the terms used in machinery spaces?

- a. Main Engine
- b. Boilers

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



- | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| c. Generators | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. Pumps | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
3. Does s/he have the ability to understand orders and communicate with the Officer of the watch in matters relating to watch-keeping
4. Is s/he conversant with the use of internal communication?
5. Is s/he familiar with Safe Working Practices?
6. Does s/he have sufficient knowledge of ER alarm systems, ability to distinguish various alarms with special reference to fire extinguishing gas alarm?
7. Does s/he have basic knowledge of safe operation of boilers, importance of correct water level and steam pressure
8. Does s/he have the ability to read and note temperature, pressure, r.p.m., etc. as required?
9. Does s/he have the ability to carry out routine checks and lubrication as necessary?
10. Does s/he understand various emergencies in the Engine-room?
11. Does s/he have knowledge of hand-over / relief procedure?
12. Does s/he understand monitoring over-board discharges in compliance with MARPOL 73/78?
13. Does s/he have an awareness of environmental protection and knowledge of procedures to be followed in compliance with MARPOL 73/78?

 Name of Assessor

 Signature

 Designation

 Date

Stamp