



PORTS and MARITIME AFFAIRS

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Directive No. STCW/14

**ISSUE OF NON-STCW CERTIFICATES
FOR OPERATION IN DOMESTIC WATERS AND FOR OPERATING
VESSELS WITH PROPELLING POWER OF LESS THAN 750 kW**

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

1. General:

The provisions of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watch-keeping for Seafarers 1978 as amended apply to sea-going vessels insofar as they relate to the Deck Department i.e. the provision of regulation II of the Convention.

The provisions of regulation III (Engine Department) of the Convention apply to those vessels that have a propulsion power of 750 kW and above.

2. Application

This directive applies to:

- 1) a master of a commercially-operated vessel engaged within Bahraini waters and
- 2) an engineering qualifications, for vessels which are commercially operated with propulsion power of less than 750 kW that may be engaged in domestic or international voyages.

3. Boat Master's Certificate:

Every person who intends to take charge of a vessel (less than 500 GT) operated commercially within Bahraini waters must hold this qualification.

The qualification is also strongly recommended for those who operate any vessel 12m or more in length.



4. Marine Engine Operator's Certificate:

Every person who intends to take charge of the operation of machinery on a vessel operated commercially with propulsion power of less than 750 kW must hold this qualification.

5. Revision history:

Revision No. 1 of the present Directive.

Hassan Ali Al Majed
Undersecretary for Ports and Maritime Affairs
20th November 2016



ANNEX 1

BOATMASTER'S CERTIFICATE

This Certificate is required in order to operate a passenger vessel and other vessels under 500 GT within Bahraini waters

1. REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING A BOATMASTER'S CERTIFICATE

In order to obtain a Boat-master's Certificate, the Applicant must:

- .1 be at least 18 years of age;
- .2 have completed sufficient service (to the satisfaction of the Undersecretary) preferably on the type of vessel which the prospective certificate holder will be entitled to command;
- .3 have a valid Medical Fitness Certificate;
- .4 produce documentary evidence that the following additional qualifications or equivalent, have been achieved:
 - .1 Basic Training (4 elements as outlined in STCW: A-VI/1.2);
 - .2 Small Vessels' Navigation and Radar Course;
 - .3 GMDSS (ROC);
 - .4 Successfully completed an approved course;
- .5 have passed the Practical and the Oral Examination conducted by the Authority.

2. PRACTICAL TEST

Boat Handling test should take place on a vessel of a type for which the applicant is requesting a certificate to cover:

- .1 Berthing and un-berthing;
- .2 Coming to and weighing anchor;
- .3 Making fast to and leaving a buoy;
- .4 Boat maneuvering in confined waters;
- .5 Turning short round;
- .6 Knowledge and effect of transverse thrust;
- .7 Steering a compass course and taking a rough bearing;
- .8 Practical demonstration on the use of VHF;

3. ORAL EXAMINATION

- .1 Emergency Situations
 - .1 Recovery of man overboard;
 - .2 Loss of Engines;



- .3 Loss of Steering ability;
 - .4 Action to take in the event of a Collision;
 - .5 Grounding;
 - .6 Accident to Crew Member or Passenger;
 - .7 Use of Extinguishing Appliances;
 - .8 Use of Life-Saving Appliances;
 - .9 Search and Rescue techniques in bad weather or reduced visibility;
 - .10 Choosing an appropriate area for Beaching or shelter in bad weather;
- .2 Regulations For Preventing Collisions At Sea**
- .1 A practical knowledge of the Rules of the Road;
 - .2 A full knowledge of the regulations;
 - .3 Keeping a good Lookout;
- .3 Local Knowledge And Regulations**
- .1 Local Signal and Traffic Regulations;
 - .2 Local Marks – to include buoys, lights, leading lights and marks;
 - .3 Boundaries of Bahraini waters and areas of operation;
 - .4 Local Dangers to Navigation – minimum and maximum depths over banks etc., obstructions, currents and abnormal tidal streams;
 - .5 Local Safe Landing places in differing weather conditions;
 - .6 A general knowledge of the Times and Heights of Spring Tides;
 - .7 Safe passage in and out of an harbour;
 - .8 Any other item of Local Knowledge which the examiner may deem to be necessary;
 - .9 A thorough knowledge of the regulations and bye-laws;
 - .10 Means and procedures for communication with owners/ operators, Port Authority and other SAR organization.
- .4 Seamanship**
- .1 Common Nautical terms;
 - .2 Interaction with Other vessels;
- .5 Chartwork**
- .1 The meaning of Common Chart Symbols;
 - .2 The use of Tidal Diamonds;
 - .3 Position Fixing;
 - .4 Courses to steer allowing for Current and Leeway;
 - .5 Familiarity with the use of Parallel Rules, Dividers, Compasses, etc.

**.6 Life-Saving And Fire-Fighting Appliances**

- .1 A knowledge of the Statutory requirements and appreciation of the fact that the person in charge of a vessel must be satisfied that the Life-saving and Fire-fighting appliances are properly maintained;
- .2 Use and deployment of Inflatable Life-rafts and Inflatable or Rescue Boats;
- .3 Inflatable Life-raft and Boat Servicing requirements;
- .4 Hydrostatic Release Units;
- .5 Maintenance and care of Buoyant Apparatus.

.7 Distress Signals

- .1 A knowledge of the contents of Annex IV of the Collision Regulations and the Operation of the Signals Equipment required to be carried;
- .2 Coastguard response to Distress Signals.

.8 Legal Responsibilities Towards Passengers And Crew

- .1 Safe Access;
- .2 Safe Working Practices;
- .3 Safety Survey Certificate and the law regarding it.

.9 Weather

- .1 Sources of Information;
- .2 Local Conditions and Effects;
- .3 Signs of Approaching Bad Weather.

.10 Engineering Knowledge

- .1 Basic knowledge of day to day Engine and Battery Checks;
- .2 The requirement for Servicing and Routine Maintenance of Propulsion and Auxiliary Machinery.

.11 Publications

- .1 Port and Local Notices to Mariners;
- .2 Admiralty Notices to Mariners;
- .3 Merchant Shipping Notices (as applicable);
- .4 Bahraini laws and Regulations (as applicable);
- .5 Bahrain Marine Guidance Note (as applicable).

.12 Pollution Regulations

A general appreciation of the Regulations applicable to the Prevention of Pollution, concerning Oil and Garbage.

**.13 Radar and Navigational Aids**

Knowledge of the use of Radar, Echo Sounder and any Position-Finding Device on board the vessel.

.14 Basic Knowledge of Vessel Construction and Stability

- .1 General knowledge of Ship Construction and of Plans available onboard the vessel, where these are carried;
- .2 Maintaining Water-tight sub-division;
- .3 Main and Emergency Bilge Pumping Arrangements;
- .4 General Pumping Arrangements;
- .5 Outline knowledge of the effect on stability of Loading, Discharging, Weight Distribution and Slack Tanks;
- .6 Outline knowledge of Freeboard and Trim;
- .7 The use of Stability and Hydrostatic Data, where provided.

.15 Hours of Work

Knowledge of the regulations on Hours of Work (as per ILO requirements).

.16 Documents Required

Knowledge of statutory documents.

4. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PASSENGER BOATMASTER'S CERTIFICATE**.17 PASSENGER MANAGEMENT**

- .1 Safety Announcements;
- .2 Disposition of Passengers and Crew to ensure Stability and Trim;
- .3 Passenger Numbers and Reporting Systems;
- .4 Knowledge of other relevant M. Notices.

.18 PASSENGER MUSTER AND EMERGENCY DRILL

Knowledge of methods of Orderly Evacuation following any Emergency, having regard to the size of the vessel concerned and its operational area.

.19 SAFETY MANAGEMENT CODE FOR DOMESTIC PASSENGER SHIPS

Knowledge of all elements of the Safety Management Code for Domestic Passenger Vessels;

.20 DOCUMENTATION AND CERTIFICATES TO BE CARRIED ON BOARD



Certificates required, including:

- .1 Safety Survey Certificate,
- .2 Bahraini Passenger Certificate,
- .3 Safety Management Code for Domestic Passenger Ships,
- .4 Crew Qualification requirements.

5. EQUIVALENT QUALIFICATIONS AND ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The Undersecretary shall determine whether a certificate/ licence issued by an authority outside the Bahrain can be accepted as equivalent to a Bahraini Boat-master's certificate and whether any additional qualification or test of local knowledge is required.

Where an applicant holds a valid Pilotage Exemption Certificate for Bahraini Waters, s/he will be exempted from the Local Knowledge part of the Oral Examination.

The Master of a High Speed Vessel (one capable of a fully laden speed of 25 knots or above) should possess a Type Rating Certificate (TRC) issued by the vessel's manufacturer or the Company training manager.

6. APPROVED COURSE

The PMA may authorize a school/ college/ institute to run a preparatory course. It shall consist of classroom lectures to cover the theory part and shall also deal with practical demonstration on a boat. The training centre seeking approval shall meet all expenses incurred in the process of evaluation.



ANNEX 2

MARINE ENGINE OPERATOR'S CERTIFICATE

Applicable for operation of marine diesel engines of less than 750kw for
domestic and international voyages

1. REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING A MARINE ENGINE OPERATOR'S CERTIFICATE:

In order to obtain a Marine Engine Operator's Certificate, the applicant must:

- .1 be at least 18 years of age;
- .2 have a valid Medical Fitness Certificate;
- .3 have sufficient experience (to the satisfaction of the Director General) of main machinery and auxiliary equipment likely to be found on vessels under 750kW;
- .4 have successfully completed the following courses:
 - .1 Basic Training (4 elements as outlined in A-VI/1.2 of STCW);
 - .2 Completed an approved course;
- .5 have passed the Oral Examination conducted by the GOPS.

2. ORAL EXAMINATION

The Applicant must demonstrate an adequate knowledge of and familiarity with the following:

- .1 Procedures associated with Handing Over / Taking Over a period of Duty;
- .2 Fire-Fighting Arrangements in the machinery space;
- .3 Safety precautions to be observed during a period of Duty, and immediate action in the event of Fire or serious accident;
- .4 Preparing Main Machinery, Steering System and Auxiliary Equipment for sea; testing Plant and Equipment; the reasons for this preparation and testing;
- .5 Operation of Marine Diesel Engines- 2-strokes & 4-strokes;
- .6 Routine pumping operations of Fuel Oil and Fresh Water;
- .7 Bilge Pumping operations, Main and Emergency;
- .8 Precautions to be observed to prevent Environmental Pollution (Oil and Garbage);
- .9 Knowledge of Electrical Power Supplies (Alternators, Generators and Batteries);
- .10 Immediate action necessary in the case of an Electric Shock;
- .11 Location and rectification of Common Faults in Main Machinery, Steering Systems, and Auxiliary Equipment;
- .12 Voyage requirements, including Bunkers, Lubricants, Water, Expendables etc.
- .13 Necessity for Routine Maintenance;



- .14 Necessity to maintain Records of Machinery and Performance, and be able to interpret the information with regard to common defects;
- .15 Consequences of sailing with certain items of Machinery inoperative, and the risks involved in doing so;
- .16 Engine Operator's responsibilities and duties concerning Bunkering Operations;
- .17 Principles of ensuring Safe Entry into Tanks and other Enclosed Spaces, and the safe systems of work which must be applied when occupying these spaces;
- .18 Precautions to be taken to reduce the possibility of Machinery Space fires;
- .19 Precautions to be taken when carrying out hot work;
- .20 Process of reversing a marine diesel engine;
- .21 Use of Reduction Gear;
- .22 Use of Shaft Generator;
- .23 Health and Safety requirements.

3. EQUIVALENT QUALIFICATIONS

The Undersecretary shall determine whether a certificate issued by an authority outside Bahrain can be accepted as an equivalent to a Bahraini Marine Engine Operator's certificate and whether any test of local knowledge is required.

If the Applicant is applying to serve on a Domestic Passenger Vessel, knowledge of the Safety Management Code for Domestic Passenger Vessels will be required.

4. APPROVED COURSE

The Administration may authorise any school/ college/ institute to run a preparatory course covering the syllabus. It shall deal with class room lectures covering the principles and theory; and shall also concentrate on practical demonstration, in a marine workshop. Training centre seeking approval shall meet all expenses incurred in the process of evaluation.



ANNEX 3

CERTIFICATE TO OPERATE A TENDER VESSEL FOR PASSENGERS

Where a cruise ship is required to operate its own boat to ferry passengers ashore
and back from the ship at anchor or mooring)

1. Application:

Every person in charge of a vessel, belonging to a passenger vessel, engaged in ferrying passengers ashore and back, must hold an appropriate Certificate as a Deck Officer (under regulation II/1 or II/2 of the STCW Convention); or a "Certificate to operate a Tender vessel" as outline in this directive.

2. Requirements:

A candidate for "Certificate to operate a Tender Vessel" must meet the following requirements before s/he can be issued with such a certificate:

- .1 Must be in possession of an Identity Document as a Seafarer issued by the national authority;
- .2 Must be in possession of a Seaman's Record Book or Discharge book;
- .3 Must be in possession of a valid Certificate of Medical Fitness;
- .4 Must have undertaken "Basic Training" (comprising of four elements outlined in A-VI/1 of the STCW Convention);
- .5 Must have performed at least two years of service in the deck department;
- .6 Must have obtained a Navigational Watch-rating Certificate (regulation II/4 of the STCW Convention);
- .7 Must have obtained CPSC (Certificate of Proficiency in Survival Craft);
- .8 Must have successfully passed a test covering the syllabus outlined below.

3. Syllabus:

Ability to communicate with the ship and the harbour control (This may be achieved through a Radio telephony certificate);

- .1 Safe launching of the tender from the ship;
- .2 Safe embarkation of passengers and instruction to passengers;
- .3 Taking on board essential safety equipment as required by the company;
- .4 Knowledge of the operation of the engine;
- .5 Knowledge of the "Rules of the Road" (Collision regulation);
- .6 Ability to identify buoys, marks and channels;



- .7 Casting off the ship;
- .8 Manoeuvring taking into consideration effect of wind, tide, current etc.
- .9 Approaching a ship or jetty (principle of stemming the tide);
- .10 Safe disembarkation of passenger;
- .11 Action in case of emergency situation.

4. Approval of Examiners:

Managers/ Superintendents of the company and senior officers of the ship (who hold an Appropriate Certificate under regulation II/2 of the STCW Convention) may apply to the Undersecretary for appointment as an Examiner for the purpose of assessment of the candidates.

5. Issue of certificates:

The company may forward all documents that meet the requirements outlined in this directive (including a declaration from the approved examiner that the candidate has passed the test) for issue of a relevant certificate "**CERTIFICATE TO OPERATE A PASSENGER TENDER**".

Hassan Ali Al-Majed

Undersecretary for Ports and Maritime Affairs

20th November 2016