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Circular

China Classification Society
(2012) Circ.No. 46 Total No. 208
May 7, 2012 (Total 4 Pages)

TO: Related departments of CCS Headquarters; Branches and Offices; and Ship Companies

ECDIS TRAINING AND SEAFARER DOCUMENTATION AS REQUIRED BY THE MANILA AMENDMENTS TO THE STCW CODE

The Office of The Maritime Administrator of Marshall Island (the “Administrator”) issued the Marine Safety Advisory No.6-12 to Regional Marine Safety Offices, Nautical Inspectors, Masters and Owners/Agents to provide the requirements of Manila amendments to the STCW Code regarding ECDIS training and seafarer documentation.

The Manila Amendments to the STCW Convention and Code entered into force on 1 January 2012. In accordance with these regulations, ALL deck officers assigned to serve on vessels that are fitted with Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems (ECDIS) must receive approved training in the use and limitations of ECDIS.

The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) will take into consideration that prior to the entry into force of the Manila Amendments to STCW, the IMO Model Course 1.27 was valid and acceptable for training in ECDIS and that this course is still valid and effective. Certificates of training issued in accordance with the requirements of IMO Model Course 1.27, or equivalent, will be “grandfathered” and accepted as approved training for service on vessels fitted with ECDIS.

Accordingly, the following shall be considered and accepted during the evaluation of an application submitted by a deck officer for ECDIS qualifications.

1. A Certificate of Competency issued by a recognized flag administration, that is acceptable to the Administrator, that was issued to a deck officer after 1 January 2012 and does not contain a limitation prohibiting service on vessels equipped with ECDIS.

OR

2. For ALL deck officers, a training certificate or other acceptable documentary evidence that approved ECDIS simulator training has been received. Such documentary evidence should contain one of the following:
 - a. Reference to IMO Model Course 1.27; or
 - b. Reference to the STCW Code Tables A-II/1, II/2, or II/3 as applicable; or
 - c. Administrator approval that the training meets the above requirements in a and b.

OR

3. For Management Level officers certified under STCW Regulation II/2 (Masters and Chief Officers), documentary evidence of having served on a vessel or vessels equipped with ECDIS for at least three (3) months in the last 12 months, and documentary evidence the officer has received familiarization training for the specific equipment that was installed on board each vessel.

OR

4. The national administration that issued the officer's CoC provides a written statement that they consider the officer to be fully qualified under the Manila Amendments to STCW for service on vessels fitted with ECDIS.

Deck Officers who do not possess any of the above will receive endorsements that carry the limitation "*not valid for vessels equipped with ECDIS*" as required by the STCW Code, as amended by the Manila Amendments in Column 1 of Tables A-II/1, II/2, and II/3.

In addition, it is strongly recommended that all deck officers serving on vessels fitted with ECDIS carry an entry in a training record book, a letter of certification, or other documentary evidence that they have been adequately familiarized and trained in the use of the specific ECDIS equipment carried on board the vessel on which they are currently serving.

Attachment: Marshall Island MSA No.3-12, total 6 pages

<p>For any question please contact the Certification Management Dept. of CCS Headquarters without hesitation</p>

Republic of the Marshall Islands

Office of the

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

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MARINE SAFETY ADVISORY NO. 6-12

To: Regional Marine Safety Offices, Nautical Inspectors, Masters, Owners/Agents

**Subject: ECDIS TRAINING AND SEAFARER DOCUMENTATION AS REQUIRED
BY THE MANILA AMENDMENTS TO THE STCW CODE**

Date: 13 January 2012

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