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## Circular

China Classification Society  
(2012) Circ.No.51 Total No. 213  
May 11, 2012 (Total 4 Pages)

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

### **Adoption of Panama to the 2010 Manila Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) 1978, as amended**

Panama Maritime Authority issued the Merchant Marine Circular MMC -235 recently to Ship-owners/Operators, Company Security Officers, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates, Recognized Organizations (RO), Regional Offices, Manning Agencies, Nautical Inspectors, Shipping Companies, Recognized Trainings Organizations to inform the adoption of Panama to the 2010 Manila amendments to the STCW.

“1. The purpose of this circular is to inform about the adoption of Panama to the 2010 Manila Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 78, as amended. This amendment will enter in force on January 1, 2012. This amendments was approved by Resolution ADM. No.148-2011 of November 18, 2011, promulgated in Official Gazette No. 26932-A of December 15, 2011.

2. The Panama Maritime Authority has adopted on Resolution JD 087-2010 the following certificates issued in accordance with the provisions of the 2010 Manila STCW 78 amendments:

- |                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| 2.1 Electro-Technical Officer | (Reg. III/6) |
| 2.2 Electro-Technical Rating  | (Reg. III/7) |
| 2.3 Able Seafarer Deck        | (Reg. II/5)  |
| 2.4 Able Seafarer Engine      | (Reg. III/5) |

3. The International Maritime Organization (IMO), Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) at its eighty-ninth (89) session (11 to 20 May 2011) considered a series of issues that required urgent clarification about the 2010 Manila amendments, under Circulars [STCW.7/Circ.16](#) and [STCW.7/Circ.17](#).

The most important clarifications are:

3.1 Revalidation of certificates issued in accordance with the provisions of the Convention in force prior to **1 January 2012** and the issuance of certificates to seafarers who commence approved seagoing service, an approved education and training programme or an approved training course before and after **1 July 2013**;

3.2 Transitional provisions which do not relate to certification issues;

3.3 Security-related training provisions;

3.4 For seafarers holding certificates issued in accordance with the provisions of the Convention which applied immediately prior to **1 January 2012** and who **have not met** the requirements of the 2010 Manila Amendments, the validity of any revalidated certificate should not extend beyond 1 January 2017; STCW.7/Circ.17.;

3.5 For seafarers holding certificates issued in accordance with the provisions of the Convention which applied immediately prior to **1 January 2012** who **have met** the requirements of the 2010 Manila Amendments, the validity of any revalidated certificate can extend beyond 1 January 2017;

3.6 For seafarers who commenced approved seagoing service, an approved education and training programme or an approved training course **before 1 July 2013**, the validity of any certificate issued should not extend beyond 1 January 2017, unless they meet the requirements of the 2010 Manila Amendments;

3.7 For seafarers who commenced approved seagoing service, an approved education and training programme or an approved training course **after 1 July 2013** the validity of any certificate issued may extend beyond **1 January 2017**.

4. We take this opportunity to reassure the Panama Maritime Administration interest and commitment to the maritime industry. <sup>i</sup>

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**January 2012**

**Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any request should be directed to:**

**Directorate General of Seafarers**

**Panama Maritime Authority**

**Phone: (507)501-5052**

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**For any question please contact the Certification Management Dept. of CCS  
Headquarters without hesitation**

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<sup>i</sup> Quotated from Panama MMC-235



## PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY

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### MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-235

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**To:** Ship-owners/Operators, Company Security Officers, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates, Recognized Organizations (RO), Regional Offices, Manning Agencies, Nautical Inspectors, Shipping Companies, Recognized Trainings Organizations

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**Subject:** Adoption of Panama to the 2010 Manila Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, as amended.

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**Reference:** Resolution ADM. No. 148-2011, Resolution 1 of the 2010 STCW Conference, Annex 1 of Resolution 2 of the 2010 STCW Conference, Resolution JD 087-2010, Circulars STCW.7/Circ.16 and STCW.7/Circ.17.

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