



Marine Notice 7/2014

STCW Security Training Requirements

Purpose

The purpose of this Marine Notice is to draw the attention of ship owners, masters, officers, ratings, seafarer training organisations and marine pilots to the requirements for security training in accordance with the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers 1978, as amended (STCW) and the following Marine Orders with effect on 1 April 2014:

- Marine Order 70 (Seafarer certification) 2014
- Marine Order 71 ((Masters and deck officers) 2014
- Marine Order 72 (Engineer Officers) 2014, and
- Marine Order 73 (Ratings) 2014.

Background

Changes to the STCW Convention introduced by the 2010 Manila amendments, require all holders of Certificates of Competency, Certificates of Proficiency as Rating and Certificates of Safety Training to complete security training in accordance with section A-VI/6 of the STCW Code. This means that all serving seafarers must hold, as a minimum, a security awareness training endorsement from 1 January 2014. Those seafarers who have assigned duties in the ship security plan are, however, required to have a higher level of security training.

IMO advice on port State control

The IMO Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping (HTW) held in February 2014, was concerned that after the ending of the transitional provisions on 1 January 2014 and the entry into force on this date, there were practical difficulties for all seafarers with security related requirements to obtain the necessary certificates and/or endorsements required in accordance with the STCW Code. As a consequence of this the Sub-Committee agreed that until 1 July 2015, in cases where a seafarer does not hold a security awareness training or designated security duties endorsement, in accordance with the STCW Convention and Code,

it would be sufficient to accept compliance with section 13 of the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code.

The Sub-Committee urged port State control authorities to take the above factors into consideration. AMSA will align with the IMO advice.

IMO circulars STCW.7/Circ.21 and STCW.7/Circ.22 address the subject.

Requirements

To apply for a security awareness training endorsement seafarers are required to complete an AMSA approved course at an AMSA approved training provider, which may be found at: <http://www.amsa.gov.au/seafarers/int-qualifications/training/approved-courses/stcw-and-non-stcw-short-courses/index.asp>

Security awareness training approved by a foreign Administration with which AMSA has an agreement, will be accepted for those who hold AMSA Certificates of Competency resident outside Australia only, as evidence of completing the requirements of security awareness training.

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