

Directorate General of Shipping, Ministry of Shipping, Govt. of India, Mumbai

Authorized by
the Directorate
General of
Shipping, GOI

Examination, Assessment & Certification
(EAC) Branch

IS/ISO Clause
No.7.5.1

Subject: Mandatory requirement for submission of successful completion of training course on High Voltage system for Certificate of Competency examination / revalidation by engineer officers and electro-technical officers

Circular No. 134 of
2017.

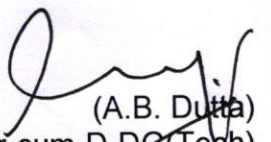
File No:- ENG/MISC-29(7)/2016

Dated: - 17.01.2017

1. NOTING THAT the STCW Convention 1978 has been amended, by the 2010 Manila Amendments, and it contains new requirements for all seafarers, both who apply for issuance of Certificate of Competency (CoC) after having successfully passed their relevant grade of CoC examination and also those who apply for revalidating their existing CoC, to submit evidences of having met the minimum requirements of Manila Amendments to ensure that their Certificate remains valid for service on ships after 31st December 2016.
2. NOTING ALSO THAT one such evidence of Manila Amendments is with respect to successful training requirements on High Voltage systems, at both the operational and the management levels, the details of which are contained in STCW Code viz., Section A-III/1 i.e., mandatory minimum requirements for certification of officers in charge of an engineering watch in a manned engine-room or as designated duty engineers in a periodically unmanned engine-room, Section A-III/2 i.e., Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of chief engineer officers and second engineer officers on ships powered by main propulsion machinery of 3,000 kW propulsion power or more and Section A-III/6 i.e., Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of electro-technical officers and that the specification of these Sections are stipulated as minimum standard of competence in Table A-III/1, A-III/2 and A-III/6 respectively.
3. NOTING FURTHER THAT the foregoing training requirements on High Voltage systems have been issued for Management level engineer officers & electro-technical officers and for operational level engineer officers vide Training circular no. 1 of 2016 dated 15th March 2016 and Training circular no 3 of 2016 dated 15th July 2016 respectively. These requirements have come into force on 1st January 2017.

4. REALIZING THAT there have been difficulties being faced by Maritime Administrations in complying with the certification requirements of seafarers, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) had issued MSC. 1 / Circ. 1560 dated 9th December 2016 recommending the Port State Control authorities to take a pragmatic approach till 1st July 2017 while taking action under the control procedures in Article X and Regulation I/4 of the STCW Convention 1978 as amended until 1st July 2017 and accordingly the Directorate had issued advisory vide Engineering circular no 3/2016 dated 29th December 2016, file no. ENG-PSC-66 (1)/2007.
5. REALZING ALSO THAT the Directorate have been issuing CoC to both management level & operational level engineer officers and also to electro-technical Officers who do not submit evidence of having completed training on High Voltage systems with imposing CoC limitation as "From the 1st January 2017 this certificate is not valid for service on ships fitted with High Voltage (over 1000V) systems".
6. IN RECOGNITION of the specification of minimum standard of competence as contained in table A-III/1, A-III/2 and A-III/6 of the STCW Code, as amended, the engineer officers and electro-technical officers are required to possess competency in high voltage systems in addition to other requirements of STCW 2010 amendments for issuance of CoC without any limitation as per STCW 2010 amendments.
7. THEREFORE, taking cognizance of the minimum standard of competency requirements of the STCW Code, the competent authority of the Directorate has taken the following decision.
 - a. All seafarers who have been assessed for any engineering grade or electro-technical officer examinations and applying for their CoC after **1st Feb 2017** are required to successfully complete the applicable high voltage course (08 hours of Operational Level Course for MEO Class IV or 50 hours of High Voltage Safety & Switch Gear Management level Course for ETO/MEO Class I/II) prior applying for their CoC, failing which their application for issuance of CoC shall not be processed.
 - b. All seafarers who have been issued engineering grade or electro-technical officer CoC with limitation "**Not valid for service on ships fitted with High Voltage (i.e. over 1000V) system beyond 1st January 2017**" are required to successfully complete the applicable high voltage course before **1st July 2017**. Upon completion of the High voltage course, such seafarers should ensure that the limitation on their CoC is deleted at the examination centre of a Mercantile Marine Departments.

- c. All those seafarers in possession of engineering grade CoC, issued under STCW Regulation III/1 and III/2 or electro-technical officer CoC issued under STCW Regulation III/6, desiring to revalidate their CoC on or after **1st February 2017** are also required to have successfully completed the applicable high voltage course prior applying for revalidation.
- d. All those seafarers who have been issued revalidated CoC with limitation **“Not valid for service on ships fitted with High Voltage (i.e. over 1000V) system beyond 1st January 2017”** are required to successfully complete the applicable high voltage course before **1st July 2017**. Upon completion of the High voltage course, such seafarers should ensure that the limitation on their CoC is deleted at the examination centre of a Mercantile Marine Departments.


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17/11/17

To,

1. All Maritime Training Institute
2. Principal Officers, MMD, Mumbai/Chennai/ Kolkata/ Kochi/ Kandla
3. Shipping Masters, Mumbai/ Kolkata/ Chennai
4. INDOS Cell, DGS, GOI, Nau Bhavan Building, Mumbai-1
5. Nautical Branch, DGS, GOI
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