



South African Maritime Safety Authority

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Marine Notice No. 20 of 2012

Introduction of new South African Radio Operator Certification

TO ALL REGIONAL MANAGERS, PRINCIPAL OFFICERS, REGISTRAR OF SEAFARERS, ACCREDITED MARINE RADIO TRAINING INSTITUTIONS, LISTED EXPERTS IN TERMS OF THE MoU AND OTHER INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

Summary

An MoU was concluded between ICASA and SAMSA on the 15th December 2011 whereby SAMSA will issue all marine radio operator certificates on behalf of ICASA. To bring South Africa in line with International requirements certain new radio operator certificates need to be introduced. This Marine Notice serves to explain the types of new radio operator certificates to be issued by SAMSA and how they can be obtained.

Existing non-GMDSS radio operator certification remains valid for the purposes for which they were issued.

The introduction of the new certificates will not replace or alter the existing GMDSS GOC certification.

1. GMDSS Radio Operator Certification for SOLAS vessels

a. GMDSS First-class Radio Electronic Certificate

This certificate can be obtained by conversion only.

Conversion criteria -

This requires the holder to hold a valid South African Maritime Radiocommunication General Certificate and a valid GMDSS General Operator's Certificate.

b. GMDSS Second-class Radio Electronic Certificate

This certificate can be obtained by conversion only.

Conversion criteria -

This requires the holder to hold a valid South African First-class or Second-class Radio Telegraph Operator's Certificate and a valid GMDSS General Operator's Certificate.

The GMDSS First and Second-class Radio Electronic Certificates will only be valid for sea service if accompanied by a valid endorsement issued in accordance with Regulation IV/2 of the International Convention of Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers 1978, as amended.

2. Radio Operator Certification for Non-SOLAS vessel's

a. Short Range Certificate (SRC)

The SRC replaces the Restricted Radiotelephone Operator's Certificate (Marine) VHF ONLY

SAMSA accredited training institutions will offer SRC Courses. Written and practical examinations for the SRC will be conducted by SAMSA.

Conversion criteria –

Holders of a valid Restricted Radiotelephone Operator's Certificate (Marine) VHF ONLY can obtain a SRC, by conversion, after successful completion of the DSC module of the SRC Course at a SAMSA accredited training institution.

b. Long Range Certificate (LRC)

The LRC replaces the Restricted Radiotelephone Operator's Certificate (Marine).

SAMSA accredited training institutions will offer LRC courses which will include a satellite module. Written and practical examinations will be conducted by a SAMSA accredited training institution with moderation by SAMSA.

Conversion criteria –

Holders of a valid Restricted Radiotelephone Operator's Certificate (Marine) can obtain a LRC, by conversion, after successful completion of the DSC and Satellite modules of the LRC Course at a SAMSA accredited training institution.

3. Charges

A certificate issuing fee as per DETERMINATION OF CHARGES under section 44 of the South African Maritime Safety Authority Act, 1998 (Act No. 5 of 1998) and under section 2 of South African Maritime Safety Authority Levies Act, 1998 (Act No. 6 of 1998), is payable for any radio operator certificate issued by SAMSA.

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Issued by and obtainable from:
The South African Maritime Safety Authority
161 Lynnwood Road
Brooklyn, Pretoria

PO Box 13186
Hatfield 0028

Tel: +27 12 366 2600
Fax: +27 12 366 2601
E-mail: marinenotices@samsa.org.za
Web Site : www.samsa.org.za