



South African Maritime Safety Authority

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Transitional arrangements for the Revalidation of Certificates of Competency and the Accreditation of Maritime Training Programs and Institutions following the 2010 Manila Amendments to the STCW Convention & Code

TO SAMSA EXAMINERS, PRINCIPAL OFFICERS, MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING PROVIDERS, SHIP OPERATORS AND OWNERS AND SEAFARERS

Summary

This marine notice advises the transitional arrangements and requirements for the revalidation of Certificates of Competency and Certificates of Proficiency and the accreditation and re-accreditation by SAMSA of training courses and providers, following the coming into force of the Manila Amendments to the STCW Convention and Code on 1 January 2012.

1 Application

In terms of Part 4 of the Merchant Shipping (Training and Certification) Regulations, 1999, maritime training must be accredited and approved by SAMSA and in terms of Regulation I/11 of the STCW Convention 1978 as amended, masters, officers and radio operators are required to demonstrate continued professional competence in accordance with Section A-I/11 of the STCW Code.

2 Transitional Arrangements.

Until 1 January 2016, SAMSA will continue to issue, recognize and endorse certificates in accordance with the provisions of the Convention which applied immediately prior to 1 January 2012 in respect of those seafarers who commenced approved seagoing service, an approved education and training programme or an approved training course *before 1 July 2013*.

Major dates and requirements:

As from -

- **1 January 2012**, Manila amendments enter into force and **may** be applied.
- **1 July 2013**, New entrants commencing training **shall** do so according to the new provisions. All training programs are to be according to the revised requirements.
- **1 January 2014**, Security training in accordance with the Manila Amendments becomes mandatory.
- **1 January 2017**, all certification shall be in terms of new requirements - **No STCW '95 certification accepted.**

3 Revalidation of Certificates

As from 1 January 2012, if an application for revalidation of any certificate issued to a master, officer or radio operator under any chapter of the STCW Convention except Chapter VI (Emergency, occupational safety, security, medical care and survival functions), is made within six months *before* expiry of the certificate, the certificate may be revalidated until the fifth anniversary of the date of validity, or extension of the validity, of the certificate, except as provided for in the following transitional arrangements.

Following 1 January 2012, holders of valid STCW '95 CoC's will be required to revalidate again before 1 January 2017 and will thus NOT receive a full five-year term before expiry *unless* it can be demonstrated that the candidate has completed the required refresher and updating courses as set out in the South African Maritime Qualifications Code in which case a CoC reflecting compliance with STCW 2010 will be issued.

An additional option to establish continued professional competence as required under Regulation I/11, is “*approved seagoing service, performing functions appropriate to the certificate held for a period of at least three months in total during the preceding six months immediately prior to revalidating*”.

Revalidation of existing STCW '95 CoC's, *may* be executed without updating **until 1 January 2016** after which date, revalidations shall only be awarded to persons who have completed approved refresher and updating training as set out in the South African Maritime Qualifications Code and have met all the conditions applicable to revalidation applications .

Revalidation of **Tanker endorsements** will be issued to persons when their CoC is revalidated, who have served 12 months during the past 36 months on the appropriate tanker type. If this cannot be verified, the candidate shall complete the appropriate tanker training course.

Revalidation of **Passenger ship endorsements** will be issued to persons when their CoC is revalidated, who have served 12 months during the past 36 months on the appropriate passenger vessel. If this cannot be verified, the candidate shall complete the appropriate training course.

Seafarers shall, by 1 January 2017, have harmonized the expiry dates of all Certificates of Proficiency, to within 6 months of the expiry date of their Certificate of Competence. This will co-incide with the issue of a single certificate incorporating all the requirements to be met in the issue of a Certificate of Competency.

4 Accreditation of Maritime Education and Training Providers and Programs

STCW '95 training programmes and institutions shall be declared accredited until 30 June 2013 only, as after that date, the course must comply with the Manila Amendments to the STCW Convention and Code.

Following 1 January 2012, all Maritime Education and Training *may* be delivered to meet the requirements of competence as set out in the STCW Convention 1978 as amended, including the Manila Amendments to the STCW Code.

As soon as a Training Provider has a course amended in terms of the February 2013 South African Maritime Qualifications Code (the SAMSA Code) provisions ready to be accredited, SAMSA shall re-accredit the programme.

Following 1 July 2013, all Maritime Education and Training *shall* be delivered to meet the requirements of competence as set out in the STCW Convention 1978 as amended, including the Manila Amendments and in accordance with the 2013 South African Maritime Qualifications Code (The SAMSA Code).

Before 1 January 2016, existing certificate holders wishing to re-validate their CoC's shall not be required to complete up-grade training.

All candidates for new CoC's issued after 1 July 2013 shall ensure that all additional academic requirements as a result of the Manila Amendments, are completed. The additional requirements are reflected in the table below.

	Deck Officer	Chief Mate Master	Eng Officer of the Watch	Second Engineer	Chief Engineer
Business and Law	Module 4	Module 6	Module 4	Module 6	Module 6
Electronic Navigation Systems	Module 4	Modules 6, 8			
High Voltage Course				Only for service on applicable vessels.*	Only for service on applicable vessels.*

All training providers issuing certificates in terms of SAMSA accreditation shall, if the programme offered complies with the 2013 SAMSA Code and includes revisions reflecting the Manila Amendments to the STCW Convention and Code, include the following statement on the certificate issued to successful candidates:

“In accordance with the STCW Code ’78 as amended in 2010, Table A-X/X, and the South African Maritime Qualifications Code” grammatically corrected to suit the existing wording and reflecting the appropriate STCW reference.

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