

**Marine Department Notice No. 10 of 2007**

(Statutory Requirements and Related Information)

**Recognition of former certificates under  
the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Ordinance, Cap. 548**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, upon commencement of the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Ordinance, Cap. 548 on 2 January 2007, all locally licensed vessels fitted with propulsion engine when underway are required to be manned by operators holding appropriate local certificates of competency issued pursuant to the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels)(Local Certificates of Competency) Rules (the Rules), or any equivalent certificates specified in the Rules.

2. Part 5 and Part 6 of the Rules provide for the recognition arrangement of former certificates issued under the Shipping and Port Control Ordinance, Cap. 313 or the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, Cap. 281. Under the arrangement, any such former certificate that has not reached the expiry date specified thereon will continue to be valid for operating locally licensed vessels, with extended limit of operation in accordance with its equivalent new class and grade of certificate as specified in Schedule 3 of the Rules.

3. For easy reference, two tables summarizing the equivalency between former and new certificates, and their corresponding limits of operation, are provided at Annex to this notice.

4. Detailed information can be obtained from the Seafarers' Certification Section of Marine Department, 3/F, Harbour Government Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong; telephone enquiry: 2544 7214; or the Marine Department website at <http://www.mardep.gov.hk>.

R. F. Tupper  
Director of Marine

Marine Department  
Hong Kong

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**TABLE 1**  
**RECOGNITION OF FORMER CERTIFICATES**  
**FOR VESSELS OTHER THAN PLEASURE VESSELS**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Former Certificates as master or engineer issued under Cap. 313 or Cap.281)</b>	<b>Equivalent Local Certificate of Competency as coxswain or engine operator issued under Cap. 548</b>	<b>Type, size or engine power of locally licensed vessels that the certificate holder may operate under Cap. 548</b>
1.	Local certificate of competency as master of a vessel of 300 tons and under	Coxswain Grade 1 Certificate	A locally licensed vessel, other than pleasure vessel, of gross tonnage not more than 1,600
2.	Certificate of competency as a trawling master	Coxswain Grade 1 Certificate	A locally licensed vessel, other than pleasure vessel, of gross tonnage not more than 1,600
3.	Local certificate of competency as master of a vessel of 60 tons and under	Coxswain Grade 2 Certificate	A locally licensed vessel, other than pleasure vessel, of not more than 24 m in length
4.	Local certificate of competency as master of a fishing vessel (without restriction)	Coxswain Grade 3 Certificate	A locally licensed vessel, other than pleasure vessel, of not more than 15 m in length
5.	Local certificate of competency as engineer of a vessel with engines of over 150 hp, or local certificate of competency as ferry engineer	Engine Operator Grade 1 Certificate	A locally licensed vessel, other than pleasure vessel, that has an aggregate power not more than 3 000 kW
6.	Local certificate of competency as engineer of a vessel with engines of up to 150 hp or local certificate of competency as engineer of a fishing vessel (without restriction)	Engine Operator Grade 3 Certificate	A locally licensed vessel, other than pleasure vessel, that has an aggregate power not more than 750 kW

**TABLE 2**  
**RECOGNITION OF COMBINATION OF FORMER CERTIFICATES**  
**FOR PLEASURE VESSEL**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Combination of Former Certificates (as pleasure vessel master or engineer issued under Cap. 313)</b>	<b>Equivalent Grade of Pleasure Vessel Operator Certificate for the purpose of Cap. 548</b>	<b>Type of local vessels that the certificate holder may operate under Cap. 548</b>
1.	<p>Local certificate of competency as Pleasure Vessel Master Grade I</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Plus</p> <p>Any pleasure vessel engineer certificate of competency issued under the repealed Shipping and Port Control (Pleasure Vessels)(Certificates of Competency) Rules, Cap. 313, sub. leg. R, or equivalent</p>	Pleasure Vessel Operator Grade 1 Certificate	Any pleasure vessel
2.	<p>Local certificate of competency as Pleasure Vessel Master Grade II or local certificate of competency as master of a vessel of 15 tons and under, endorsed with “valid for privately owned pleasure craft only”</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Plus</p> <p>Any pleasure vessel engineer certificate of competency issued under the repealed Shipping and Port Control (Pleasure Vessels)(Certificates of Competency) Rules, Cap. 313, sub. leg. R, or equivalent</p>	Pleasure Vessel Operator Grade 2 Certificate	A pleasure vessel of not more than 15 m in length overall
3.	<p>Local certificate of competency as master of a vessel of 300 tons and under, local certificate of competency as master of a vessel of 60 tons and under, or certificate of competency as a trawling master</p>	Pleasure Vessel Operator Grade 1 Certificate	Any pleasure vessel

Item	Combination of Former Certificates (as pleasure vessel master or engineer issued under Cap. 313)	Equivalent Grade of Pleasure Vessel Operator Certificate for the purpose of Cap. 548	Type of local vessels that the certificate holder may operate under Cap. 548
	<p style="text-align: center;">Plus</p> <p>Any pleasure vessel engineer certificate of competency issued under the repealed Shipping and Port Control (Pleasure Vessels)(Certificates of Competency) Rules, Cap. 313, sub. leg. R, or equivalent</p>		
4.	<p>Local certificate of competency as master of a fishing vessel (without restriction)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Plus</p> <p>Any pleasure vessel engineer certificate of competency issued under the repealed Shipping and Port Control (Pleasure Vessels)(Certificates of Competency) Rules, Cap. 313, sub. leg. R, or equivalent</p>	Pleasure Vessel Operator Grade 2 Certificate	A pleasure vessel of not more than 15 m in length overall