



香 港 商 船 資 訊

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Implementation and Clarification of Security-Related Training

To : Shipowners, Ship Managers, Company Security Officers, Ship Security Officers and Seafarers.

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to inform shipping community on updating the implementation schedule of the security-related training and clarification of the certification issue in accordance with the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, as amended.

1. Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 50/2012 provided mandatory requirements on the security-related training for seafarers under STCW Convention on board Hong Kong registered ships. This Note serves to update the implementation schedule and clarifies the certification issue of the security-related training.
2. It was noted that there might be some practical difficulties for seafarers to obtain certification on security awareness (SA) training and designated security duties (DSD) training certification after the transitional period ended on 1 January 2014. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) recognizes this situation and has promulgated the Circular STCW.7/Circ.21 to advise port state control officers, recognized organisations and recognized security organisations that until 1 July 2015, in cases where a seafarer does not hold such certification in accordance with regulation VI/6 of the STCW Convention and section A-VI/6, paragraphs 4 and 6 of the STCW Code, it would be sufficient to accept compliance with section 13 of the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code.
3. Although the Circular STCW.7/Circ.21 gives flexibility on the certification of seafarers on security-related training, port state control officers may still record the finding as deficiency in their inspection reports. In this respect, the Marine Department strongly urges all Shipowners and Ship Managers of Hong Kong registered ships to do their utmost to ensure compliance with the requirements as soon as possible.

4. It is noted that the security-related training, consists of the three levels of training: SA, DSD and ship security officer (SSO), with the training for SSO being the highest level. IMO recognises that the training requirements for the higher levels of training would include the competencies of the lower levels of training. In this regard, the Circular STCW.7/Circ.22 clarifies that seafarers holding SSO certification should not be required to obtain DSD and SA training certificates. Similarly, seafarers holding DSD should not be required to obtain SA training certificate.

5. Both the Circulars STCW.7/Circ.21 and STCW.7/Circ.22 can be found on the website of Marine Department as attachments to this Note.

6. Enquiries relating to this Note should be made to the Senior Surveyor of Ships/Seafarers' Certification on telephone no.: (+852) 2852 4368; fax no.: (+852) 2541 6754; or e-mail address: sscr@mardep.gov.hk.

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