



## 香 港 商 船 資 訊

## HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

**Application for the issue of Hong Kong Licences and GMDSS Certificate of Equivalent Competency under the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 (STCW), as amended**

*To : Shipowners, Ship Masters, Agents and Seafarers' Unions*

***Summary***

The purpose of this Note is to inform shipowners, ship masters, agents and seafarers' unions about updated "Guidelines for the Issue of Hong Kong Licences to holders of non-Hong Kong Certificates under the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended" and "Guidelines for the Issue of GMDSS Certificate of Equivalent Competency with Endorsement for Recognised Foreign GMDSS Radio Certificate Holders and Certificate Endorsement Revalidation". The HKMSIN No. 27/2009 and No. 28/2009 issued on 23 October 2009 are hereby superseded.

1. The "*Guidelines for the Issue of Hong Kong Licences to holders of non-Hong Kong Certificates under the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended*" (referred as "Guidelines for Licence") are updated from time to time and published on the website of Marine Department including list of STCW countries that are recognized by this Administration for the issue of full term or short term licences and the fees for the issue of such licences. Please refer to the updated "Guidelines for Licence" in the link: [https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/pub\\_services/pdf/coc\\_gl4.pdf](https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/pub_services/pdf/coc_gl4.pdf).

2. The "*Guidelines for the Issue of GMDSS Certificate of Equivalent Competency with Endorsement and Certificate Endorsement Revalidation*" (referred as "Guidelines for GMDSS") are also updated and published from time to time including list of STCW countries that are recognized by this Administration for the issue of full term or short term GMDSS Certificate of Equivalent Competency (CoEC). Enquiries of GMDSS Certificate of Equivalent Competency should be made to Support Services Sub-section of the Office of the Telecommunications Authority at telephone: +852 2961 6608, fax:+852 3155 0914, or e-mail: [maritime@ofta.gov.hk](mailto:maritime@ofta.gov.hk) . Please refer the details of "Guidelines for GMDSS" in the link: <https://www.coms-auth.hk/filemanager/statement/en/upload/559/gn092021.pdf>.

3. For the officers holding a recognized STCW certificate of competency and an appropriate and valid GMDSS radio operator certificate, they may apply for a GMDSS operator endorsement together with the Hong Kong Licence. A stand-alone STCW GMDSS certificate of equivalent competency is not necessary anymore while the seafarer obtains a Hong Kong Licence with GMDSS operator endorsement.

4. To expedite the processing and issuance of Hong Kong Licence, applicant is strongly recommended to apply Hong Kong Licence on-line through the Marine Department Electronic Business System (eBS) by referring to Appendix 2 of the “Guidelines for Licence”. For opening an eBS account, the application form “Application for Registration of Account in eBS” is available at the link: [https://ebs.mardep.gov.hk/download/e2reg\\_en.pdf](https://ebs.mardep.gov.hk/download/e2reg_en.pdf).

5. Enquiries relating to this Note should be directed to the Senior Surveyor of the Seagoing Examination and Mercantile Marine Office on telephone: +852 2852 4383, or e-mail: [sssem@mardep.gov.hk](mailto:sssem@mardep.gov.hk).

Marine Department  
Local Vessel and Examination Division

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