



Seafarers Department Circular **SDC-16/03**

IMMARBE

International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MANILA AMENDMENTS TO STCW CONVENTION AND CODE FOR ABLE SEAFARER DECK (STCW Reg. II/5) AND ABLE SEAFARER ENGINE (STCW Reg. III/5)

**TO: DEPUTY REGISTRARS, ISM OPERATORS/OWNERS, RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS AND
GENERAL SAFETY INSPECTORS.**

ISSUANCE DATE: 17th August 2016

Revision No.:

Reference 1: Manila Amendments to STCW Convention and code

Reference 2: IMO Assembly Resolution A. 1047 (27)

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Seafarer Department Circular is to provide Ship Owners, ISM Operators, Deputy Registrars, General Safety Inspectors, Recognized Organizations and Other Parties information on how International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize (IMMARBE) will implement the Manila Amendments to the STCW Convention regarding new grades of Able Seafarer Deck (AS(D)) and Able Seafarer Engine (AS(E)).

Every Seafarer who performs any functions specified in table A-II/5 (contribute to anchoring and mooring, cargo handling and etc.) or A-III/5 (contribute to fueling and oil transfer, ballast, operation of equipment and machinery, shipboard maintenance and etc.) shall hold a Certificate of Proficiency (CoP), as applicable.

2. REQUIREMENTS

The Amended STCW Convention will be fully implemented on 1 January 2017, Owners/ISM Operators shall ensure the manning scales in their Minimum Safe Manning (MSM) Certificates are in compliance with the STCW Convention and the IMO Assembly Resolution A.1047(27).

The existing MSM Certificates issued by IMMARBE do not include the scale on AS (D) and AS(E), and as such do not meet the requirements of the amended STCW Convention. Therefore,

IMMARBE would like to inform Owners/ISM Operators that current MSM Certificates onboard Belize Flag Vessels will only be valid until 31 December 2016. The Owners/ISM operators are consequently requested to submit new application for the MSM Certificate.

Attached (is a) copy of the application form for new MSM Certificate.

(Because) the Seafarer's Department of IMMARBE has been informed that a number of qualified AS (D)s and AS(E) may not be issued with their corresponding CoPs prior the above deadline). This circular provides additional information for Owners/ISM operators in renewing the MSM Certificates.

According to Regulation II/5.6 and III/5.4 of the STCW Convention, qualified watch-keeping ratings, i.e. holding CoPs in respect of Regulation II/4 or III/4, may be considered to have met the respective requirements of Regulation II/5 and III/5 respectively if they have served in relevant capacities in their corresponding department for a period of not less than 12 months within the last 60 months preceding the entry into force of the Regulation II/5 and III/5. However, some of Administrations may not adopt the regulations to issue CoPs for them. Ship Operators may have difficulties in employing sufficient AS (D) and AS(E) to work on board. In this regard, the Seafarer's Department will, on a temporary basis, accept a limited number of competent ratings who have not yet received their CoPs.

3. IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 As a temporary measure, a minimum number of one (1) AS(D) and one (1) AS(E) are required, and the differences may be substituted by corresponding ratings holding CoPs of Ratings forming part of a navigational watch (RW(D)) or Ratings forming part of an engineering watch (RW(E)) with relevant capacities as required in the abovementioned paragraph.

Required number of Ratings are listed below in Table 1 for Belize Flagged vessels:

RATINGS/ Table 1		
Grade	STCW Reg.	No.
Able Seafarer Deck (AS(D))	II/5	1
Ratings forming part of a navigational watch (RW(D))	II/4*	1 or 2
Other Deck Ratings (OR(D))	VI/1	0
Able Seafarer Engine (AS(E))	III/5	1
Ratings forming part of an engineering watch (RW(E))	III/4**	1 or 2
Other Engine Room Ratings (OR(E))	VI/1	0

Remarks * - Ratings acquire 12-months experience in relevant capacities while holding certificate of proficiency of RW(D) (II/4)

** - Ratings acquire 12-months experience in relevant capacities while holding certificate of proficiency of RW(E) (III/4)

3.2 Owners/ISM Operators must apply through their responsible Deputy Registrar office for the revised MSM Certificate prior to 1 January, 2017. Copy of the application form for reissuance of new MSM Certificate along with the crew list must be submitted by Deputy Registrar office to:

IMMARBE Technical Department Eng. Eduardo Simon (technicalofficer@immarbe.com), Eng. Jessica Villareal (technicalofficer2@immarbe.com) and Capt. Demetrio Cortes (demetrio@immarbe.com)

3.3 In the event that IMMARBE Technical Department is not satisfied with the proposed crew complement forwarded by Deputy Registrar on behalf of ship owners/ship manager, a counter-proposal will be made by IMMARBE Technical Department.

3.4 Whenever a revised MSM Certificate is issued, the current MSM Certificate will no longer be valid.

The above-detailed measure shall take effect from 01 September 2016.



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