

**STCW Circular No. \_\_\_\_\_**

**TO: ALL SEAFARERS, MARITIME INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS, MARITIME HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, MARITIME TRAINING INSTITUTIONS, SHIPPING COMPANIES, MANNING AGENCIES, EXAMINATION AND ASSESSMENT INSTITUTIONS, OTHER ENTITIES AND INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT: MANDATORY MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION OF RATINGS AS ABLE SEAFARER ENGINE IN A MANNED ENGINE-ROOM OR DESIGNATED TO PERFORM DUTIES IN A PERIODICALLY UNMANNED ENGINE-ROOM**

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Pursuant to Republic Act 10635 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), and the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW), 1978, as amended, the following rules shall be adopted:

## **1 OBJECTIVES**

- .1 To prescribe the standards and procedures in full compliance with the requirements of STCW Chapter III, Regulation III/5 for mandatory minimum requirements for assessment and certification of Able Seafarer Engine serving on a seagoing ship powered by main propulsion machinery of 750 kW propulsion power or more; and
- .2 To streamline the practical assessment and certification processes by ensuring that all candidates for Able Seafarer Engine are appropriately qualified and are in full compliance with the requirements of the STCW Convention, 1978, as amended.

## **2 COVERAGE**

This Circular shall apply to all candidates for certification as Able Seafarer Engine on a seagoing ship powered by main propulsion machinery of 750 kW propulsion power or more.

### **3 DEFINITION OF TERMS**

For purposes of this Circular, in addition to the terms defined in relevant STCW Circulars, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

- .1 “Pre-Employment Medical Examination (PEME)” means the periodic, final or return-to-work medical examination given to seafarers to screen out medical condition before employment in accordance to DOH policies and requirements under Regulation I/9 of STCW Convention, 1978, as amended;
- .2 “Crew List” means the list prepared by the master of a ship showing the full names, nationality, passport or Seaman Identification Record Book (SIRB) number, rank and age of every officer and crew member engaged on board that ship.

### **4 GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- .1 The issuance of Certificate of Proficiency (COP) shall be in accordance to Regulation III/5 and the relevant provisions of Regulation I/2, I/9 and I/15 of the STCW Convention;
- .2 The candidates shall be required to demonstrate the competence to perform the functions at the support level, as specified in column of table A-III/5;
- .3 The approved education and training shall meet the knowledge, understanding and proficiency required of an able seafarer engine serving on a seagoing ship powered by main propulsion machinery of 750 kW propulsion power or more shall be in accordance to column 2 of table A-III/5;
- .4 The evidence of having achieved the required standards of competence in accordance with the methods for demonstrating competence and the criteria for evaluating competence shall be in accordance to Column 3 and 4 of the Table A-III/5;
- .5 Seafarers holding a valid Certificate of Competency (COC) and Certificate of Endorsement (COE) as Officer in Charge of an Engineering Watch (OIC-EW) under Regulation III/1 of STCW Convention, 1978, as amended and intend to seek certification under Regulation III/5 are exempted from taking the Practical Assessment;
- .6 Onboard processing shall be filed by MARINA Accredited Liaison Officer, submitting the following documents:
  - .6.1 Letter Request from Manning/Crewing Agency;
  - .6.2 Notarized Affidavit of Undertaking;
  - .6.3 POEA Contract of Employment; and
  - .6.4 Crew list.

- .7 Assessment Center shall ensure that the appropriately qualified assessors shall conduct the practical assessment of competence. The ratio of Assessor to Candidates shall be 1:10 per day. In addition, the maximum number of candidates to be assessed depends on the number of equipment and assessor/s. Candidate shall also be assessed individually for the purpose of effective assessment.

## **5 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY FOR ABLE SEAFARER ENGINE**

Every candidate for certification as Able Seafarer Engine shall:

- .1 be not less than 18 years of age; and shall submit:
  - .1.1 original and photocopy of PSA (NSO) birth certificate; or
  - .1.2 original and photocopy of page one (1) of Seafarer's Identification Record Book (SIRB); or
  - .1.3 original and photocopy of page two (2) of Passport.
- .2 meet the requirements for certification as a rating forming part of watch in a manned engine-room or designated to perform duties in a periodically unmanned engine room; and shall submit a Certificate of Proficiency (COP) for rating forming part of an engineering watch in a manned engine-room or designated to perform duties in a periodically unmanned engine room;
- .3 while qualified to serve as a rating forming part of an engineering watch, have approved seagoing service in the engine department, serving as, but is not limited to, Engine Cadet, Engine Fitter, Oiler, Wiper, Motorman, Welder, Machinist, Engine Boy and GP-Motorman, of:
  - .3.1 not less than 12 months; or
  - .3.2 not less than 6 months and have completed approved training, and shall submit any of the following:
    - .3.2.1 Certificate of Completion of training for Able Seafarer Engine; or
    - .3.2.2 Transcript of Records (TOR) for Completion of Academic Requirements (CAR) for Bachelor of Science in Marine Engineering, in compliance to the minimum knowledge, understanding and proficiency required of an able seafarer engine specified in Table A-III/5 of the STCW Code; or
    - .3.2.3 Certificate of Completion / Transcript of Records (TOR) for

Enhance Support- Level Program Engine, in compliance to the minimum knowledge, understanding and proficiency required of an able seafarer engine specified in Table A-III/5 of the STCW Code.

.3.3 approved seagoing service as required in Section 5.3.1 or 5.3.2 above shall be documented through, Original and photocopy of relevant pages of SIRB showing appropriate seagoing service and Certificate of Sea Service from shipping company;

3.3.1 In addition, domestic seagoing service shall submit: Crew list and the vessel profile/particulars.

.4 Submit a Valid Medical Certificate in PEME standard format from DOH-accredited medical hospital or Clinic; and

.5 Meet the standard of competence specified in section A-III/5 of the STCW Code, and shall submit a Certificate of Assessment.

## **6 PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT OF COMPETENCE**

### **.1 SPECIFIC REQUIRMENTS FOR PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT OF COMPETENCE**

Every candidate for practical assessment of competence shall:

.1.1 meet the requirements for certification as a rating forming part of watch in a manned engine-room or designated to perform duties in a periodically unmanned engine room; and shall submit a Certificate of Proficiency (COP) for rating forming part of an engineering watch in a manned engine-room or designated to perform duties in a periodically unmanned engine room;

.1.2 while qualified to serve as a rating forming part of an engineering watch, have approved seagoing service in the engine department, serving as, but is not limited to, Engine Cadet, Engine Fitter, Oiler, Wiper, Motorman, Welder, Machinist, Engine Boy and GP-Motorman, of:

.1.2.1 not less than 12 months; or

.1.2.2 not less than 6 months and have completed approved training, and shall submit any of the following:

.1.2.2.1 Certificate of Completion of training for Able Seafarer Engine; or

.1.2.2.2 Transcript of Records (TOR) for Completion of Academic Requirements (CAR) for Bachelor of

Science in Marine Engineering, in compliance to the minimum knowledge, understanding and proficiency required of an able seafarer engine specified in Table A-III/5 of the STCW Code; or

.1.2.2.3 Certificate of Completion / Transcript of Records (TOR) for Enhance Support- Level Program Engine, in compliance to the minimum knowledge, understanding and proficiency required of an able seafarer engine specified in Table A-III/5 of the STCW Code;

.1.2.3 approved seagoing service as required in Section 6.1.2.1 or 6.1.2.2 above shall be documented through, Original and photocopy of relevant pages of SIRB showing appropriate seagoing service and Certificate of Sea Service from shipping company; and

.1.2.4 In addition, domestic seagoing service shall submit: Crew list and the vessel profile/particulars.

## .2 PROCEDURES FOR PRACTICAL ASSESSEMENT OF COMPETENCE

The candidate shall:

.2.1 Prior taking the practical assessment:

.2.1.1 submit all the specific requirements under Section 6.1 to:

.2.1.1.1 STCW Online system for uploading documents; or

.2.1.1.2 the Examination and Assessment Division of the STCW Office; or

.2.1.1.3 EAD's counterpart in the MARINA Regional Offices where the region has an accredited practical assessment center.

.2.1.2 after verification of validity and authenticity of specific requirements, indicate the particular competences that he intends to be assessed on;

.2.1.3 secure the prescribed practical assessment permit.

.2.2 During the practical assessment:

.2.2.1 report to the practical assessment center venue at least 30 minutes prior the schedule;

.2.2.2 Familiarization shall be conducted on the operational and safety use of equipment prior the conduct of assessment;

.2.2.3 follow the instructions of the authorized assessor; and

.2.2.4 complete the practical assessment in every competence indicated within the time allowed.

.2.3 After taking the practical assessment of competence:

.2.3.1 secure the certificate of practical assessment of competence;

.2.3.2 note the competences with a failing mark; and

.2.3.3 schedule for re-sit, if necessary.

### **.3 REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCCESSFUL PASSING OF THE PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT OF COMPETENCE**

For successfully passing and completing the practical assessment of competence the following shall be complied:

.3.1 the candidate shall pass all the required competences within a period not exceeding 2 years. The competences passed beyond 2 years shall expire and shall be required to be re-assessed accordingly;

.3.2 the candidate who fails may re-sit for the practical assessment of competence;

.3.3 a candidate who fails in the same competence 3 times, shall not be allowed to re-sit for such competence until upon showing proof of approved seagoing service for a period of not less than 3 months, with a certification from the ship's master that the candidate has undergone onboard experience relating to that particular competence (3-3 rule) or approved training or refresher program relating to that particular competence.

## **7 DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE ADMINISTRATION**

For a seafarer who has completed all the requirements under Section 5 of this Circular, Certificate of Proficiency for Ratings as Able Seafarer Engine shall be issued.

## **8 VALIDITY OF CERTIFICATES**

Certificate of Proficiency for Ratings as Able Seafarer Engine shall have no

expiration.

## **9 SCHEDULE OF FEES, PENALTIES AND FINES**

The schedule of fees, penalties and fines shall be provided in a separate circular.

## **10 TRANSITORY PROVISIONS**

Seafarers may be considered by the Party to have met the requirements of this regulation if they have served as Rating as Able Seafarer Engine in a manned engine-room or designated to perform duties in a periodically unmanned engine-room such as but not limited to Engine Fitter, Oiler, Motorman, Welder, Machinist, GP-Motorman for a period of not less than 12 months within the last 60 months preceding the entry into force of this regulation for that Party.

## **11 PENALTY CLAUSE**

Any violation of the provisions of this Circular and other related MARINA issuances shall be governed and sanctioned by the provisions of the IRR for RA 10635 and pertinent MARINA STCW Circulars, including any amendment or addendum thereof, as may be promulgated by the Administration.

## **12 REPEALING CLAUSE**

Any provision of other existing MARINA and STCW Circulars, rules and regulations, or of any other Philippine government agency related to education, training, examination, assessment, licensing and certification of Rating as Able Seafarer Engine, which are contrary or inconsistent with this Circular are hereby superseded, repealed or amended accordingly.

## **13 SEPARABILITY CLAUSE**

Should any provision or part of this Circular be declared by any competent authority to be invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions or parts hereof shall remain in full force and effect and shall continue to be valid and effective.

## **14 EFFECTIVITY**

This STCW Circular shall take effect immediately on the day of its publication. Manila, Philippines, \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted:

**ATTY VERA JOY S. BAN-EG**  
OIC-Executive Director

Approved:

**MARCIAL QUIRICO C. AMARO III, PhD**  
Administrator

**CERTIFICATION**

This is to certify that STCW Circular No. \_\_\_\_\_ was approved by the Administrator on \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTY. BENEDICTO G. MANLAPAZ**  
OIC – Legal Division