



## MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

**STCW Circular No. 2017 - 05**

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

**SUBJECT: MANDATORY MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION OF RATINGS AS ABLE SEAFARER DECK**

Pursuant to Presidential Decree (PD) 474, Republic Act 10635 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), and the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, as amended, the following rules shall be adopted:

### **1 OBJECTIVE**

To prescribe the procedures to ensure full compliance with the requirements of STCW Chapter II, Regulation II/5 for mandatory minimum requirements for assessment and certification of ratings as able seafarer deck serving on a seagoing ship of 500 gross tonnage or more.

### **2 COVERAGE**

This Circular shall apply to all candidates for certification of ratings as able seafarer deck on a seagoing ship on a seagoing ship of 500 gross tonnage or more.

### **3 DEFINITION OF TERMS**

For purposes of this Circular, terms defined in IRR of RA 10635 and relevant STCW Circulars are hereby adopted.

### **4 GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- .1 The issuance of Certificate of Proficiency (COP) shall be in accordance with Regulation II/5 and the relevant provisions of Regulations I/2 and I/9 of the STCW Convention, 1978, as amended;

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- .2 The candidates shall be required to demonstrate the competence to perform the functions at the support level, as specified in column 1 of Table A-II/5;
- .3 The approved education or training shall meet the knowledge, understanding and proficiency required of an able seafarer deck serving on a seagoing ship on a seagoing ship of 500 gross tonnage or more shall be in accordance with column 2 of Table A-II/5; and
- .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 with columns 3 and 4 of the Table A-II/5.

## **5 SPECIFIC PROVISIONS**

- .1 Candidates holding a valid Certificate of Competency (COC) and Certificate of Endorsement (COE) as Officer in Charge of a Navigational Watch (OIC-NW) under Regulation II/1 of STCW Convention, 1978, as amended, who intend to seek certification under Regulation II/5 are exempted from taking the Assessment;
- .2 Onboard processing shall be allowed to be filed by MARINA Accredited Liaison Officer, provided that all the requirements under Section 6 of this Circular are duly complied with and upon submission of the following documents:
  - .1 Letter Request from the candidate;
  - .2 Company Affidavit of Undertaking, duly signed either by its President or Operations Manager or Crewing Manager and duly notarized, certifying that documents submitted are authentic;
  - .3 Approved POEA Contract of Employment;
  - .4 Crew list duly signed by the Master; and
  - .5 Photocopy of the requirements under Section 6 of this Circular.

## **6 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY FOR RATINGS AS ABLE SEAFARER DECK**

Every candidate for certification of Ratings as Able Seafarer Deck shall:

- .1 be not less than 18 years of age and submit original and photocopy of page one (1) of Seafarer's Identification Record Book (SIRB);
- .2 meet the requirements for certification as a ratings forming part of navigational watch by submitting a Certificate of Proficiency (COP) for ratings forming part of a navigational watch;



- .3 while qualified to serve as a ratings forming part of navigational watch, have approved seagoing service in the deck department, serving in a position such as but is not limited to, Deck Cadet, Deck Fitter, OS, AB, Deck Boy and GP-Deck, GP-AB, GP-OS of:
  - .1 not less than 18 months; or
  - .2 not less than 12 months and have completed approved training, and shall submit any of the following:
    - .1 Certificate of Completion of training for Able Seafarer Deck; or
    - .2 Transcript of Records (TOR) for Completion of Academic Requirements (CAR) for Bachelor of Science in Marine Transportation (BSMT), in compliance with the minimum knowledge, understanding and proficiency required of an able seafarer deck specified in Table A-II/5 of the STCW Code; or
    - .3 Certificate of Completion / Transcript of Records (TOR) for Enhance Support- Level Program for Marine Deck (ESLPMD), in compliance with the minimum knowledge, understanding and proficiency required of an able seafarer deck specified in Table A-II/5 of the STCW Code.
- .4 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;

In addition, domestic seagoing service shall submit crew list duly signed by the Master and stamped by Philippine Coast Guard;
- .5 Submit a Valid Medical Certificate in PEME standard format from DOH-accredited medical hospital or Clinic in accordance with Regulation I/9 of the STCW Convention, 1978, as amended; and
- .6 Meet the standard of competence specified in section A-II/5 of the STCW Code by passing the assessment of competence.

## **7 ASSESSMENT OF COMPETENCE**

- .1 SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSESSMENT OF COMPETENCE
  - .1 every candidate for assessment of competence shall present all the general requirements under Section 6.1, 6.2 and 6.5 of this Circular, Certificate of Completion / COP of Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats other than Fast Rescue Boats (PSCRB)

- .2 register in the Seafarer Certification System (SCS) through <http://stcw.marina.gov.ph/SCSv2.0/> to secure the Seafarer's Registration Number (SRN) and upload all the documents stated under Section 7.1.1 of this Circular.

## .2 PROCEDURES FOR ASSESSMENT OF COMPETENCE

The candidate shall:

- .1 prior to the taking of the assessment:
  - present all the general requirements under Section 7.1.1 to MARINA accredited assessment centers for Ratings as Able Seafarer Deck.
- .2 during the assessment:
  - .1 report to the assessment center venue at least 30 minutes prior the schedule;
  - .2 follow the instructions of the authorized assessor; and
  - .3 complete the assessment in every competence indicated within the time allowed.
- .3 after taking the assessment of competence:
  - .1 note the competences with a failing mark; and
  - .2 schedule for re-sit, if necessary; or
  - .3 secure the signed and approved certificate of assessment of competence from the assessment center.

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

In taking assessment, the following rules shall be observed:

- .1 the candidate shall pass all the required competences within a period not exceeding 24 months;
- .2 If the candidate fails to complete all the competences within 24 months, those "PASSED" mark beyond 2 years shall expire and shall be required to be re-assessed accordingly;



- .3 the candidate who fails in the same competence 3 times, shall not be allowed to re-sit for such competence until upon showing proof of;
  - .1 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 ("The 3-3 Rule"); or
  - .2 approved training or refresher program relating to that particular competence.

## **8 DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE ADMINISTRATION**

For the candidate who has completed all the requirements under Section 6 and Section 7 of this Circular, Certificate of Proficiency for Ratings as Able Seafarer Deck shall be issued.

## **9 VALIDITY OF CERTIFICATES**

Certificate of Proficiency for Ratings as Able Seafarer Deck shall have no expiration.

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

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

## **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 Ratings as Able Seafarer Deck, 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.

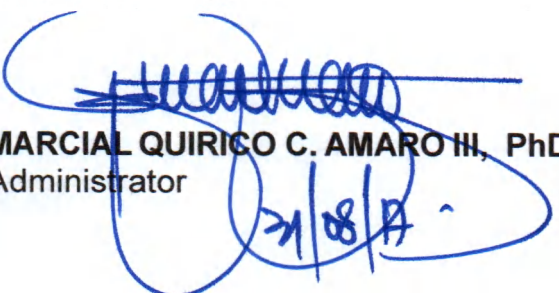
Manila, Philippines, 31 AUGUST 2017.

Submitted:



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

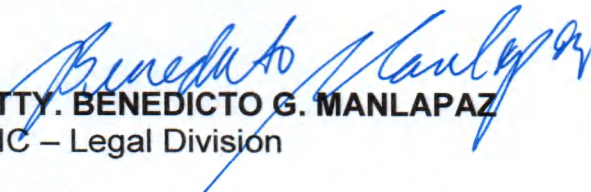
Approved:



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

### CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that STCW Circular No. 2017-05 was approved by the Administrator on 31 AUGUST 2017.



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

**GUIDE FOR THE PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT OF COMPETENCE  
FOR RATINGS AS ABLE SEAFARER DECK**

| <b>FUNCTION</b>  | <b>CODE</b> | <b>COMPETENCE</b>   | <b>NUMBER OF ASSESSMENT</b> |
|--|-------------|---|-----------------------------|
| NAVIGATION AT THE SUPPORT LEVEL  | C1          | Contribute to a safe navigational watch   | 1                           |
|  | C2          | Contribute to berthing, anchoring and other mooring operations                            | 1                           |
| CARGO HANDLING AND STOWAGE AT THE SUPPORT LEVEL  | C3          | Contribute to the handling of cargo and stores  | 1                           |
| CONTROLLING THE OPERATION OF THE SHIP AND CARE FOR PERSONS ON BOARD AT THE SUPPORT LEVEL | C4          | Contribute to the safe operation of deck equipment and machinery                          | 1                           |
|  | C5          | Apply occupational health and safety precautions  | 1                           |
|  | C6          | Apply precautions and contribute to the prevention of pollution of the marine environment | 1                           |
|  | C7 *        | Operate survival craft and rescue boats   | T & A                       |
| MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR AT THE SUPPORT LEVEL  | C8          | Contribute to shipboard maintenance and repair  | 1                           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   |             |   | <b>7</b>                    |

**T&A = Training and Assessment Documentary Evidence**

C7\* = Certificate of Completion / COP for Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats other than Fast Rescue Boats (PSCRB)

Note:

The candidate is required to **PASS** all the assessments in order to qualify for the issuance of Certificate of Proficiency under Regulation II/5