

International Maritime Organization

Training and certification of seafarers and coast station personnel

PRIDA Training on Maritime Communication Services
Tunis, Tunisia
26-29 February 2024
Cafer Ozkan Istanbulu
Technical Officer
Maritime Safety Division
International Maritime Organization

Training and certification of seafarers

STCW Convention and the Code

IMO Conventions

- More than 50 international conventions and protocols

- Three main categories:
 - Maritime safety
 - Marine pollution
 - liability and compensation

- Three main conventions:
 - International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)
 - International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL)
 - International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW)

Training and certification of seafarers

STCW Convention and the Code

The International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers

- Adopted on 7 July 1978 and entered into force on 28 April 1984
- 167 States are Party to the STCW 1978 Convention
- Supplemented by the Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW) Code
 - part A, mandatory provisions
 - part B, recommended guidance

Training and certification of seafarers

STCW Convention and the Code

Key provisions of the STCW Convention

- Communication of information (Regulation I/7)
([MSC.1/Circ.1163/Rev.13](#) refers)
- Quality standards (Regulation I/8)
([MSC.1/Circ.1164/Rev.26](#) refers)
- Certificates and endorsements (Regulation I/2)
(validity and authenticity [check](#))
- Control (Article X)

Training and certification of seafarers

STCW Convention and the Code

Articles of the STCW 1978 Convention

Annex to the STCW 1978 Convention

Chapter I General Provisions

Chapter II Master and deck department

Chapter III Engine department

Chapter IV Radiocommunication and radio operators

Chapter V Special training requirements for personnel on certain types of ships

Chapter VI Emergency, occupational safety, security, medical care and survival functions

Chapter VII Alternative certification

Chapter VIII Watchkeeping

Training and certification of seafarers

STCW Convention and the Code

Chapter IV - Radiocommunication and radio operators

- Applies to radio operators on GMDSS-compliant ships only.
- Sets the minimum criteria for the certification of GMDSS radio operators.
- Requires radio operators to hold an appropriate radio operator according to the provisions of the [Radio Regulations](#).
- Provisions of Chapter IV are supported by STCW Code Part A and Part B.

Training and certification of seafarers

STCW Convention and the Code

STCW Code, Part A, Chapter IV (Standards regarding radio operators)

- Set out the minimum mandatory requirements for certification of a GMDSS radio operator.
- Outlines two competencies to:
 - Transmit and receive information using GMDSS sub-systems and equipment, and fulfilling the functional requirements of GMDSS; and
 - provide radio services in emergencies

STCW Code, Part B, Chapter IV (Guidance regarding radiocommunication and radio operators)

- Outlines the scope of the training required for REO, GOC and ROC

Training and certification of seafarers

STCW Convention and the Code

IMO Model courses

1.25 - General Operator's Certificate for GMDSS, 2015 Edition

1.26 - Restricted Operator's Certificate for GMDSS, 2015 Edition

1.31 – Second-Class Radioelectronic Certificate for GMDSS Radio Personnel, 2002 Edition

GMDSS Coast Station Operator's Certificate (CSOC) syllabus

[COMSAR.1/Circ.33/Rev.1](#)

IMO maritime training institutions

World Maritime University ([WMU](#))

IMO International Maritime Law Institute ([IMLI](#))

Training and certification of seafarers

STCW Convention and the Code

Wrap up

- General information on the STCW Convention
- Key provisions and relevant IMO circulars
- Chapter IV (Radiocommunication and radio operators) and categories of radio operator certificates
- STCW Code
- IMO model courses and training institutions

IMO's World Maritime Theme for 2024: "Navigating the future: **safety first!**"



International Maritime Organization

4 Albert Embankment
London
SE1 7SR
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)20 7735 7611
Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210
Email: info@imo.org
www.imo.org



twitter.com/imohq

facebook.com/imohq

youtube.com/imohq

[flickr.com/photos/
imo-un/collections](https://flickr.com/photos/imo-un/collections)