



PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY
MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-235

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To: Parties, Administrations, Port State Control Authorities, Recognized Organizations (RO's), Ship-owners/Operators, Seafarers, Legal Representatives of Panama-Flag Vessels, Authorized Maritime Training Centers, Privative Consulates of Merchant Marine, Inspectorates, Authorized Offices, Departments/Units/Areas of the GDS, Regional Documentation Offices of the Panama Maritime Authority.

Subject: 2010 Manila Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (1978 STCW Convention, as amended).

Reference: [Circular No. DGGM-UCYC-016-2017 of July 18th, 2017](#)

1. This document has the aim of reiterating to the users of the Panama Maritime Authority, the [Circular No. DGGM-UCYC-053-2016](#) of December 23rd, 2016, whereby was informed that since January 1st, 2017, all seafarers must hold a certificate or endorsement which complies with the provisions of the 2010 Manila Amendments to the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended, and the STCW Code, and the non-compliance to these Amendments may represent detention of ships by the Port State Control.
2. Furthermore, by means of the Circular No. 024-2011-DGGM of December 19th, 2011, it was communicated that this Maritime Administration, adopted the 2010 Manila Amendments to the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended, through the Resolution ADM No.148-2011 of November 11th, 2010, and published in the Official Gazette No. No.26932-A of December 15th, 2011.

Prepared by: Lawyer	Revised by: Compliance and Enforcement Deputy Chief	Approved by: Compliance and Enforcement Chief
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3. Likewise, it should be noted that the Panama Maritime Authority, adopted through the Resolution J.D. No.087-2010 of November 11th, 2010, the certificates for the new capacities in accordance with the provisions of the 2010 Manila to the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended:
 - 3.1. Electro-technical Officer. (Regulation III/6);
 - 3.2. Electro-technical Rating. (Regulation III/7);
 - 3.3. Able Seafarer Deck. (Regulation II/5); and
 - 3.4. Able Seafarer Engine. (Regulation III/5).

4. Moreover, it is informed that the International Maritime Organization, at its eighty-ninth (89) session of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC), has issued clarifications regarding the implementation of the 2010 Manila Amendments, under Circulars **STCW.7/Circ.16** and **STCW.7/Circ.17**. The most important clarifications are:
 - 4.1. For seafarers holding certificates issued in accordance with the provisions of the Convention which applied immediately prior to **1 January 2012** and who **have not met** the requirements of the 2010 Manila Amendments, the validity of any revalidated certificate should not extend beyond January 1st, 2017;
 - 4.2. For seafarers holding certificates issued in accordance with the provisions of the Convention which applied immediately prior to **1 January 2012** who **have met** the requirements of the 2010 Manila Amendments, the validity of any revalidated certificate can extend beyond 1 January 2017;
 - 4.3. For seafarers who commenced approved seagoing service, an approved education and training programme or an approved training course **before 1 July 2013**, the validity of any certificate issued should not extend beyond 1 January 2017, unless they meet the requirements of the 2010 Manila Amendments; and
 - 4.4. For seafarers who commenced approved seagoing service, an approved education and training programme or an approved training course **after 1 July 2013** the validity of any certificate issued may extend beyond 1 January 2017.

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5. Due to the above, and based on Regulation I/14 of the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended, the corporations are liable for the appointment of seafarers for service on their vessels in accordance with the provisions of such Convention, and in this sense all seafarers designated to undertake tasks, duties and responsibilities on a ship, in compliance with the standards of competences established in the Regulations II/5, III/5, III/6 y III/7, must hold an appropriate certificate.

6. We take this opportunity to reassure the Panama Maritime Administration interest and commitment to the maritime industry.

7. Circulars [No. DGGM-UCYC-053-2016 of December 23rd](#), 2016 and No. 024-2011-DGGM of December 19th, 2011, are attached for reference.

July 2017, “Added Paragraphs 1, 5 and 7”.

“Modified Paragraphs 2, 3, and 4”

January, 2012

***Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any other request should be directed to:
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**DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE LA GENTE DE MAR
DESPACHO DEL DIRECTOR**

Panamá, 19 de diciembre, 2011

CIRCULAR No. 024 - 2011 - DGGM

PARA: CONSULADOS PRIVATIVOS DE MARINA MERCANTE, OFICINAS REGIONALES DE DOCUMENTACIÓN DE LA AMP, CENTROS DE FORMACIÓN MARÍTIMA RECONOCIDOS Y AUTORIZADOS, INSPECTORÍAS Y OFICINAS AUTORIZADAS.

C.I ADMINISTRADOR DE LA AUTORIDAD MARÍTIMA DE PANAMÁ, SUB-ADMINISTRADOR DE LA AUTORIDAD MARÍTIMA DE PANAMÁ, DEPARTAMENTOS DE LA DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE LA GENTE DE MAR.

DE:

ROSSANA CEDEÑO

SUB-DIRECTORA GENERAL DE LA GENTE DE MAR



ASUNTO:

COMUNICACIÓN DE RESOLUCIÓN ADM POR LA CUAL SE ADOPTAN LAS ENMIENDAS DE MANILA 2010.

FECHA:

19 de diciembre de 2011

Estimados señores,

Mediante la presente tengo el agrado de comunicar la **Resolución ADM No. 148-2011**, publicada en Gaceta Oficial No. 26932-A, del 15 de diciembre de 2011. Por la cual se adoptan las Enmiendas de Manila 2010, efectuadas al Convenio Internacional sobre Normas de Formación, Titulación y Guardia para la Gente de Mar, 1978 Enmendado (Convenio STCW 78, Enmendado) y a su Código Inmerso.

RC/AR/lrg

RESOLUTION ADM. No. 148-2011

THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY, in use of his legal powers, and

WHEREAS:

That by Law Decree No. 7, of February 10th of 1998, is created the Panama Maritime Authority and it was assigned among its functions to: recommend policies and actions, exercise acts of administration, as well as to enforce the legal and regulative standards with regard to the Maritime Sector.

That Article 3 Law Decree 7 of February 10th of 1998 establishes as main objectives of the Panama Maritime Authority the administration, promotion, regularization, projection, and execution of policies, strategies, legal and regulatory standards, plans, and programs that are directly, indirectly or connectively related with the functioning and development of the Maritime Sector.

That through Law N°4 of May 15th of 1992, the Republic of Panama has become Party of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended (1978 STCW Convention, as amended), in which has been established the minimum standards of training and certification for seafarers on board of ships.

That through the Resolution ADM No.106-2008 of September 22nd of 2008, it was approved the national standards regarding the resting and watchkeeping time of seafarers, in compliance of the demands imposed by the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended, by virtue of Regulations VIII/1 and VIII/2.

That through the Resolution ADM N°084-2008 of August 8th, 2008, it was approved the implementation of the Ship Security Officer Certificate, according with the national and international standards for the Certification of Seafarers in accordance with the requirements imposed by the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, as amended in 1995 (1978 STCW Convention, as amended), and the International Ship and Port Security Code (ISPS Code).

That the International Maritime Organization (IMO) of June 25th, 2010, adopted through the Resolution 1 and 2 of the Conference of the Parties of Manila 2010 (2010 Manila Amendments), the amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, and the amendments to the Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW) Code; which will be entering into force on January 1st, 2012.

That through Resolution J.D. N°055-2008 of September 18th, 2008, the Administrator of the Panama Maritime Authority was authorized to regulate the technical topics which were competence of this Institution, and due legal provisions are not ascribed to the General Directorates of this entity, related to the enforcement of the international conventions in maritime affairs.

That in order to ensure the effectiveness and control of the Panamanian Maritime Administration in the implementation of the 2010 Manila Amendments to the International Convention on

Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping of Seafarers, 1978, as amended (1978 STCW Convention, as amended), and its Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping Code; it is job of the Administrator of the Panama Maritime Authority keeping updated the instruments of mandatory nature, of which Panama is signatory; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED:

FIRST: **TO ADOPT** the Resolution 1 in all its parts, and the Annex 1 of the Resolution 2 adopted on June 25th, 2010, through the 2010 Manila Amendments, to the International Convention on Standards of training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended (1978 STCW Convention, as amended) and its Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping Code, respectively.

SECOND: **TO APPLY** the Resolution 1 in all its parts and the Annex 1 of the Resolution 2 adopted on June 25th, 2010, through the 2010 Manila Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended (1978 STCW Convention, as amended) and its Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping Code, respectively.

THIRD: **TO ORDER** the General Director of Seafarers to communicate through Circulars to all maritime community, including the Maritime Centers recognized and authorized by the Panama Maritime Authority, the compliance of the 2010 Manila Amendments, adopted through this Resolution.

FOURTH: That at the time of onboard or ashore training for seafarers, the Maritime Training Centers recognized and authorized by the Panama Maritime Authority through the General Directorate of Seafarers must comply with the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended, STCW Code, as amended, and other provisions that the Panamanian Maritime Administration issue.

FIFTH: That this Resolution will enter into force since its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Panama.

LEGAL BASIS: Law No.4 of May 15th, 1992
Law Decree No.7 of February 10th, 1998, amended by Lay No.57 of August 6th, 2009.
Resolution J.D. No.055-2008 of September 18th, 2008.
Resolution ADM. No.084-2008 of August 8th, 2008.
Resolution ADM. No.106-2008 of September 22nd, 2008.

TO BE PUBLISHED, COMMUNICATED AND COMPLIED,

Given in the City of Panama this eighteenth (18th) day of November, two thousand and eleven (2011).

ROBERTO J. LINARES T.
Administrator
Panama Maritime Authority