



Kiribati Ship Registry

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MARINE CIRCULAR 27/2013

1 October 2013

TO : Ship Owners, Managers, Charterers, Ship Master and the Shipping Community

SUBJECT : STCW Chapter VI Regulation VI/6 – Mandatory minimum requirements for security-related training and instruction for all seafarers.

This Circular is to notify the shipping community that in accordance with the Manila amendments to the STCW Convention and Code that has entered into force on 1 January 2012, the transition provisions on the security-related training and instruction for all seafarers shall cease to be applicable by 1 January 2014 and then after all seafarers are required to comply with the mandatory minimum requirements for security-related training and instruction in accordance with the STCW Chapter VI Regulation VI/6 when serving on board ISPS Code compliant vessels.

A. Security-Related Familiarisation Training onboard ship

1. Seafarers employed or engaged in any capacity on board a ship are to receive security-related familiarisation training before being assigned to any shipboard duties.
2. The security-related familiarisation training shall enable the seafarer to:
 - 2.1. report a security incident, including a piracy or armed robbery threat or attack;
 - 2.2. know the procedures to follow when they recognise a security threat; and
 - 2.3. take part in security-related emergency and contingency procedures.
3. The security-related familiarisation training shall be conducted by the Ship Security Officer or an equally qualified person and take into account the guidance given in STCW Code B, Section B-VI/6.
4. Evidence of such familiarisation training conducted shall be kept onboard under the ship's Safety Management System and is available for review by relevant Recognised Organisation and ISM Code auditors.
5. The Ship Security Plan may be amended to include the above requirements or incorporate the requirements of the onboard training into the Safety Management System of the vessel. Any amendment has to be informed to the Recognised Organisation.

B. Minimum Requirements for Seafarers with Designated Security Duties

1. Every seafarer who is designated to perform security duties, including anti-piracy and anti-armed-robbery-related activities, shall meet the standards of training as stipulated in the STCW Code Section A-VI/6, paragraph 6 to 8.
2. On completion of this training, the seafarer should be issued with an STCW Certificate of Proficiency and be able to meet the competence standards given in STCW Code Table A-VI/6-2.

3. Transitional provisions:

3.1. Until 1 January 2014, seafarers who commenced seagoing service prior to 1 January 2012 shall be able to demonstrate competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in Column 1 of STCW Code Table A-VI/6-2 by:

3.1.1. approved seagoing service as shipboard personnel with designated security duties, for a period of at least six months in total during the preceding three years; or

3.1.2. having performed security functions considered to be equivalent to the seagoing service required in the above paragraph 3.1.1; or

3.1.3. passing an approved test; or

3.1.4. successfully completing approved training.

C. Minimum Requirements for Security-Awareness Training

1. Seafarers, without designated security duties, employed or engaged in any capacity on board a ship are to receive security-awareness training before being assigned to any shipboard duties.

2. On completion of this training which may form part of an approved shore-based course, the seafarer should be issued with an STCW Certificate of Proficiency and be able to meet the competence standards given in STCW Code Table A-VI/6-1.

3. Transitional provisions:

3.1. Until 1 January 2014, seafarers who commenced seagoing service prior to 1 January 2012 shall be able to establish that they meet the requirements of Section A-VI/6, paragraph 4 by:

3.1.1. approved seagoing service as shipboard personnel, for a period of at least six months in total during the preceding three years; or

3.1.2. having performed security functions considered to be equivalent to the seagoing service as required in the above paragraph 3.1.1; or

3.1.3. passing an approved test; or

3.1.4. successfully completing approved training.

D. Recognition of Certificate of Proficiency from other Administrations

1. The Kiribati Administration recognises Certificate of Proficiency issued to seafarers to meet the requirements of Sections (B) and (C) of this circular provided that it was issued in accordance with the STCW Convention by or under the authority of an Administration which is a Party to the STCW Convention.

2. There is no requirement for the Kiribati Administration to issue endorsements for the recognition of the Certificate of Proficiency issued by other Administrations.

E. Transitional Provisions

1. The Transitional Provisions for the requirements of the above Sections (B) and (C) shall cease to be applicable on 1 January 2014.
2. The Kiribati Administration urges the shipping community to implement measures to ensure that all seafarers comply with the mandatory minimum requirements for security-related training and instruction, and acquire the appropriate documentary evidence of training prior 1 January 2014.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Registrar
Kiribati Ship Registry