



M P A
SINGAPORE

**MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE
SHIPPING CIRCULAR TO SHIPOWNERS
NO 6 OF 2014**

MPA Shipping Division
460 Alexandra Road
#21-00, PSA Building
Singapore 119963
Fax: 6375-6231
<http://www.mpa.gov.sg>

12 March 2014

Applicable to: Shipowners, ship managers, company security officers, ship security officers, crew and masters of Singapore ships.

CLARIFICATIONS OF THE SECURITY RELATED TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION FOR SEAFARERS REQUIRED UNDER THE 2010 MANILA AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING FOR SEAFARERS (STCW CONVENTION).

1 Shipping Circular No 16 of 2013 informed shipping community on the security-related training requirements for seafarers under the STCW Convention onboard ships. This circular provides further clarifications pertaining to the training and certification requirements for seafarers.

2 It was noted from feedback received from the industry that ships' officers who have completed training and holding appropriate certificates as ship security officer (SSO) meeting the competence requirements of section A-VI/5 of the revised STCW Convention, were asked to provide evidence of having completed training in security familiarisation or in designated security duties in compliance with section A-VI/6 of the STCW Convention. IMO has promulgated a circular STCW.7/Circ.22 (copy attached as Annex A) clarifying that seafarers holding SSO Certificates would not be required to undergo additional training and certification on both security awareness and seafarers with designated security duties.

3 Many seafarers had faced practical difficulties to obtain STCW Convention compliant security awareness certificate or seafarers with designated security duties before the transitional period ended on 1 January 2014. IMO, recognising this, has promulgated a circular STCW.7/Circ.21, (copy attached as Annex B) advising port state control officers, recognised organisations and recognised security

organisations that until 1 July 2015, even if a seafarer does not carry certification in security awareness training or seafarers with designated security duties as required in accordance with Regulation VI/6 of the STCW Convention and Section A-VI/6, it would be sufficient to accept compliance with section 13 of the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code.

4 Although the circular STCW.7/Circ.21 provides some leeway for the security related certification of seafarers, port state control officers may record the findings of non-compliance to the revised STCW Convention as a deficiency in their inspection report. MPA therefore, strongly urges companies to strive to get their seafarers qualified and certified in accordance with 2010 Manila amendments to the STCW Convention as soon as possible.

5 Any queries regarding this circular should be addressed to Capt I G Sangameswar (Tel no. 6375 6205) or Capt Khoo Gek Hung (Tel no. 6375 1935).

TAN SUAN JOW
DIRECTOR OF MARINE
MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE