



# ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

## MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

### CIRCULAR N° STCW 005

#### SECURITY RELATED TRAINING AND INSTRUCTION FOR SEAFARERS (STCW REGULATION VI/6)

**TO:** SHIPOWNERS, SHIPS' OPERATORS AND MANAGERS,  
SEAFARERS, FLAG STATE SURVEYORS, RECOGNIZED  
ORGANIZATIONS

**APPLICABLE TO:** ALL CREW MEMBERS EMPLOYED OR ENGAGED IN ANY  
CAPACITY ON BOARD A SHIP WHO SHOULD COMPLY  
WITH THE ISPS CODE

**EFFECTIVE AS FROM:** DATE OF PRESENT CIRCULAR

29<sup>th</sup> October 2013

#### 1. Introduction

STCW Convention regulation VI/6 takes effect on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014 and applies to seafarers on St Vincent and The Grenadines registered vessels to which the ISPS Code applies

This regulation requires all seafarers on ships subject to the ISPS Code to have received security related training and instruction relevant to their assigned duties on-board.

The provisions regarding security related training contained in STCW Regulation VI/6, Section A-VI/6 and Section B-VI/6 cover the following:

- Security related familiarization training;
- Security awareness training for seafarers **without** designated security duties; and
- Security training for seafarers **with** designated security duties.

The training and qualification requirements for Ship Security Officers remain unchanged by the entry into force of STCW VI/6.

#### 2. Security related familiarisation training

Any person, except passengers, employed or engaged onboard St Vincent and The Grenadines vessel should have received security-related familiarization training satisfying the requirement of STCW Code A-VI/6.1 prior to be assigned their shipboard duties.

Prior being assigned ship board duties, all seafarers employed or engaged in any capacity on ships to which the ISPS Code applies should receive security related familiarization training,

The familiarisation training should be done by the Ship Security Officer or an equally qualified person and provide guidance for the seafarers so that they are at least able to:

- report a security incident;
- know which procedures to follow when they recognize a security threat; and
- take part in security-related emergency and contingency procedures.

These procedures should be included in the Ship Security Plan and may also be included as part of the shipboard familiarisation checklist.

Records of security related familiarization training or instruction should be kept on board. Retention time: three (3) years.

### **3. Security Awareness Training for seafarers without designated security duties**

Seafarers should undertake training for proficiency in security awareness at least once. There is no need for refresher or revalidation if the seafarer satisfies the security related familiarization requirements of STCW Regulation VI/6 and has participated in the drills and exercise required by the ISPS Code.

- All seafarers in the deck, engineering and catering departments of a ship should have received this training and hold a Certificate of Proficiency issued in accordance with STCW Regulation VI/6.2 and Section A-VI/6.4 of the STCW Code. This training applies to seafarers employed or engaged in any capacity on board a ship as part of the ship's complement **without designated security duties**.
- The training should be in accordance with IMO Model Course 3.27 "Security awareness training for all seafarers".
- Transitional provisions are provided in Section A-VI/6.5 of the STCW Code (see below).

### **4. Security Training for seafarers with designated Security Duties**

Seafarers should undertake training for proficiency in designated security duties at least once. There is no need for refresher or revalidation if the seafarer satisfies the security-related familiarization requirements of STCW Regulation VI/6 and has participated in the drills and exercise required by the ISPS Code. This training is required for seafarers who have security duties as specified in the Ship Security Plan and includes those duties related to anti-piracy and anti-armed robbery measures.

- Seafarers with such designated security duties should hold a Certificate of Proficiency issued in accordance with STCW Regulation VI/6.5 and Section A-VI/6.6 of the STCW Code.
- The training should be in accordance with IMO Model Course 3.26 "Security awareness training for seafarers with designated security duties"
- Transitional provisions are provided in Section A-VI/6.9 of the STCW Code (see below).

### **5. Required of Certificates of Proficiency**

St Vincent and The Grenadines Maritime Administration will accept a Certificate of Proficiency issued under STCW Regulation VI/6.2 or VI/6.5 as valid for service on St Vincent and The Grenadines ships, provided the Certificate of Proficiency has been issued by, or on behalf of, another Administration (Member Party of the STCW Convention) in accordance with the STCW Convention and Code.

As from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014, seafarers who do not meet the transitional provisions (see para. 6 of the Circular) will have to hold a Certificate of Competency issued by or on behalf of another Administration in accordance with the STCW Convention and Code.

There is no requirement for a St Vincent and The Grenadines endorsement attesting the recognition of a Certificate of Proficiency for Security Awareness Training or Security Training for Seafarers with Designated Security Duties or Ship Security Officer

## **5.1 Delay in approval of security awareness training course or training course for seafarers with designated security duties by some Member Parties of the STCW Convention**

This Administration has been advised that in some countries final approval of security awareness training course or training course for seafarers with designated security duties have not yet been completed.

Taking the above into account, seafarers who have joined ships before 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014, who will be serving on board after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014 and who cannot meet the requirements of transitional provisions described in para. 6 of this Circular, this Administration will accept documentary evidence of attendance at any security awareness course or course for seafarers with designated security duties which covers the subject material in STCW Table A-VI/6-1 or in STCW Table A-VI/6-2 even though the course may not yet be approved by the Administration in the country of origin.

On completion of their contracts these seafarers should complete the approved training before engaging another contract

## **6. Transitional Provisions**

Until 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014, any seafarer who started sea service prior 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012 with at least six (6) months of seagoing service in total as a ship crew during the preceding three (3) years and has been briefed in security duties and participated in security-related emergency and contingency procedural exercises, will be considered as meeting the requirements of Section A- VI/6-5 or A-VI/6-9 of the STCW Code, without undertaking any further training.

The shipping companies may issue documentary evidence as indicated in the Annex of this circular to the individual seafarer who has complied with transitional provisions of the STCW.

### **6.1 Standard of competence for security-awareness training**

STCW Code A-VI/6.5, Transitional provisions states:

Until 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014, seafarers who commenced an approved seagoing service prior to the date of entry into force of this section shall be able to establish that they meet the requirements of paragraph 4 (*Standard of competence for security-awareness training*) by:

- Approved seagoing service as shipboard personnel, for a period of at least six months in total during the preceding three years (the Company, refer to the ISM Code, para 1.1.2, may issue their own attestations to seafarers confirming the seafarer has accrued the necessary sea time to fulfil this requirement); **OR**
- Having performed security functions considered to be equivalent to the seagoing service required in the above; or
- Passing an approved test; or
- Successfully completing approved training.

### **6.2 Standard of competence for seafarers with designated security duties**

STCW Code A-VI/6.9, Transitional provisions states:

Until 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014, seafarers with designated security duties who commenced an approved seagoing service prior to the date of entry into force of this section shall be able to demonstrate

competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in column 1 of table A-VI/6-2 (Specification of minimum standard of competence for seafarers with designated security duties) by:

- 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 (the Company, refer to the ISM Code, para 1.1.2 may issue their own attestations to seafarers confirming the seafarer has accrued the necessary sea time to fulfil this requirement); **OR**
- Having performed security functions considered to be equivalent to the seagoing service required in the above; or
- Passing an approved test; or
- Successfully completing approved training.

Seafarers who meet the seagoing service requirements mentioned above may be issued with an attestation by their employer confirming that they meet the transition provisions provided by Sections A-VI/6.5 and A-VI/6.9 of the STCW Code. The declaration issued should be in the form indicated in the Annex to this Circular.

From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014, seafarers who do not meet the above requirements should receive an approved training prior being employed on a seagoing ship

#### **7. Ship Security Officer (SSO) Certificate of Proficiency**

The seafarer in possession of Ship Security Officer (SSO) Certificate of Proficiency as per STCW VI/5 is not required to undertake Security Awareness Training for seafarers without designated security duties or Training for Seafarers with Designated Security Duties i.e. to hold the corresponding Certificates of Proficiencies since the SSO training covers this level.

The STCW Code, Table A-VI/5 (Specification of minimum standard of competence for ship security officers) covers all requirements from STCW Code, Table AVI/6-1 (Specification of minimum standard of competence in security awareness) or Table VI/6-2 (Specification of minimum standard of competence for seafarers with designated security duties).

ANNEX

**Sample Format of attestation to recognize seagoing service for the purposes of STCW Code Section A-VI/6.5.1 (All seafarers, standard of competence for security-awareness training)**

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(Company's letterhead)

**Issued in accordance with STCW Code Section A-VI/6.5.1 for service on St Vincent and The Grenadines ships.**

**Attestation number:**

Name of seafarer:	
Passport number:	
Date of birth:	
Nationality:	

**Attestation by Company:**

Name of Company*:	
Address of Company:	
IMO Company ID number:	

I hereby confirm that the above seafarer has been employed by the Company as indicated above. After reviewing the seafarer's seagoing service I further declare the following:

1.	That the seafarer commenced his/her seagoing service prior 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2012;
2.	That the seafarer has approved seagoing service as shipboard personnel of at least six months in the three years prior 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2014;
3.	That the seafarer meets the requirements of STCW Code Section A-VI/6.5.1 for demonstrating competence for <b><u>security-awareness training</u></b>

Name of Company Security Officer (CSO):	
Signature of CSO:	

Date and place of issue:	
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Signature of seafarer:	
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**This attestation is issued in accordance with St Vincent and The Grenadines Circular STCW 005 in order to prove that the seafarer meets the requirements stipulated in the Transitional Provisions, STCW Code, Section A-VI/6.5.1.**

\* see paragraph 1.1.2 of the ISM Code

ANNEX

**Form of attestation to recognize seagoing service for the  
purposes of STCW Code Section A-VI/6.9.1  
(Standard of competence for seafarers with designated security duties)**

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(Company's letterhead)

**Issued in accordance with STCW Code Section A-VI/6.9.1 for service  
on St Vincent and The Grenadines ships.**

**Attestation number:**

Name of seafarer:	
Passport number:	
Date of birth:	
Nationality:	

**Attestation by Company:**

Name of Company*:	
Address of Company:	
IMO Company ID number:	

I hereby confirm that the above seafarer has been employed by the Company as indicated above.  
After reviewing the seafarer's seagoing service I further declare the following:

1.	That the seafarer commenced his/her seagoing service prior 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2012;
2.	That the seafarer has approved seagoing service as shipboard personnel with designated security duties of at least six months in the three years prior 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2014; and
3.	That the seafarer meets the requirements of STCW Code Section A-VI/6.9.1 for demonstrating competence for <b><u>security training for seafarers with designated security duties</u></b>

Name of Company Security Officer (CSO):	
Signature of CSO:	

Date and place of issue:	
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Signature of seafarer:	
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**This attestation is issued in accordance with St Vincent and The Grenadines Circular STCW 005 in order to prove that the seafarer meets the requirements stipulated in the Transitional Provisions, STCW Code, Section A-VI/6.9.1.**

\* see paragraph 1.1.2 of the ISM Code