

Conclusion

Given the fact that the majority of the world's seafarers are recruited and supplied from the region (Asia-Pacific & South Asia), the stakeholders (Maritime Administrators, Shipping Companies, Shipmanagement Companies, Maritime Education and Training Institutes, Ports and other Maritime industry partners) should be actively involved and contribute to the review of STCW (the international training convention of IMO - which is presently undergoing comprehensive revision) by sharing their experiences of the implementation of the convention . This will ensure that the revision will be conducted with inputs from all stakeholders reflecting the interests of shipping industry, training institutes and maritime administrations of this region.

This current comprehensive review of IMO's STCW Convention is likely to have far reaching effects on regional maritime education and training (MET), and the maritime industry.

The Conference/Workshop theme reflects the need for the regional MET and industry stakeholders to fully understand the proposed changes and chart the way ahead in consequence.

ALAM partnering with GlobalMET is trying to facilitate the revision process of the STCW Convention and its associated Codes.

References

1. Asian Seafarers Forum - The 14th Interim Meeting of ASF Seafarers Committee, Kuala Lumpur, 20-21 November 2008.
Retrieved from: <http://asianshipowners.org/2008/11/28/the-14th-interim-meeting-of-asf-seafarers-committee/>
2. STW documents: 40-14; 40-7-3; 40-7-6; 40-7-12; 40-7-13; 40-7-13; 40-7-14; 40-7-15; 40-7-16; 40-7-17; 40-7-18; 40-7-19; 40-7-21; 40-7-28; 40-7-32; 40-7-33; 40-7-37; 40-7-44; 40-7-45; 40-7-49; 40-7-53; 40-7-54; 40-7-56; 40-7-61;

Proposed Changes to Chapter IV (Radio communication) & Chapter VI (Emergency, occupational safety, security, medical care & survival functions) and IMO Model Courses

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1 GlobalMET AT IMO

The writer participated in the 40th session of the Sub-Committee on Standards of Training and Watchkeeping (STW 40), held at the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) from 2-6 February 2009, as the delegate for GlobalMET Limited.

At its 100th Session in June 2008 the IMO Council approved the application by GlobalMET Limited for Consultancy Status (subject to endorsement by the Assembly in November 2009). GlobalMET's expression of interest in reviewing and rewriting the IMO Model Courses in a phased manner, after the completion of the review and revision of STCW (STW 40/3/2 "Review of model courses related to the implementation of the STCW Convention and Code"), was included in the papers for STW 40.

In his opening address IMO Secretary General Efthimios Mitropoulos stated:

Another activity directly associated with the comprehensive review of the STCW Convention and Code, once completed, should be the review and updating, as necessary, of model courses under the instruments. This will be of great assistance to all stakeholders to properly implement the revised requirements. GlobalMET's offer to review and/or revise the model courses in a phased manner is, therefore, recognised with appreciation.

In responding to the Chairman's invitation to speak to STW 40/3/2, GlobalMET stated:

As this is the first time GlobalMET has spoken at STW, having had NGO Observer Status approved at the 100th Session of Council, let me say on behalf of GlobalMET that it is a privilege to be here and to address this esteemed forum.

With respect to paper STW 40/3/2, the review and rewriting of the IMO Model Courses in the light of the current revision of STCW will be an important and major task, demanding input from a substantial pool of expertise.

Through its membership of some 100 maritime education and training academies, GlobalMET has access to a substantial pool of expertise. Additionally, through collaboration, which is already agreed and being discussed, with

- the International Association of Maritime Universities
- IAMU - 50 members
- the International Association of Maritime Institutes - IAMI - 40 members
- the International Maritime Lecturers Association - IMLA
- 100 members
- the International Marine Simulation Forum - IMSF - 60 members

that pool of expertise becomes very substantial. It is through such very constructive collaboration that the essential, extensive pool of expertise in maritime education and training will be applied to this major and necessary task.

In closing, may I also take this opportunity, Mr Chairman, to express GlobalMET's thanks to the Secretary General for his welcome expression of appreciation in his opening address, of GlobalMET's offer to assist IMO with the revision and review of the model courses.

These remarks were followed by statements of willingness to collaborate by the delegates from IAMU and IMLA.

2 VALIDATION OF MODEL TRAINING COURSES

The ExecSec represented GlobalMET on the Drafting Group on Validation of Model Training Courses, which met on 4 February under the chairmanship of Mr A H Kayssi

(Lebanon), Vice Chairman of the STW Sub-Committee. The drafting group:

- reviewed Model Course 1.34 on Automatic Identification Systems following the entry into force of the 2004 amendments to MARPOL Annex II and proposed amendments;
- reviewed the list of model courses related to the STCW Convention and in light of the ongoing comprehensive review of the Convention and Code, identified 12 courses to be revised in the first phase, 7 in the second phase and 10 in the third phase and discussed the overall plan for the revision; these courses are listed in STW 40/WP.5;
- invited the Sub-Committee to approve and validate the proposed amendments to 1.34 and to endorse the list of model courses for review/revision and to approve the proposed plan for revision.

The next step is for a plan to be formulated for the overall management of this major undertaking. STW 41 is scheduled for the second week of January 2010, (there may be an intersessional meeting beforehand). The final step in the current review of the STCW Convention will be acceptance at a diplomatic conference, scheduled to be held in Manila in June 2010. Following this the review and rewriting of the model courses is to commence.

Paper STW 40/WP.5 "VALIDATION OF MODEL TRAINING COURSES: Report of the Drafting Group" is in attachment A.

3 PROPOSED CHANGES TO CHAPTER IV (RADIO COMMUNICATION AND RADIO PERSONNEL

The STW 40 Working Group 2 was required to review the preliminary revised draft text of chapter IV of the STCW Convention, part A and part B of the STCW Code, as prepared by STW 39 and to make further progress on the draft text of amendments with a view to endorsement by plenary and approval in principle by MSC 86 and finalization at STW 41. The WG met and submitted its report to STW 40 on 5 February 2009, which included preliminary revised draft text of chapter IV of the STCW Convention and part A and part B of the STCW Code.

The Islamic Republic of Iran had proposed a review of regulation IV/2 of the STCW Convention in order to redress the inconsistency in using "GMDSS radio personnel" and "GMDSS radio operator" terms and STW 40 referred this to the WG for consideration.

In annex 1 to the report of the WG to STW 40 , it is proposed that wherever "radio personnel" is used in chapter IV of the STCW Convention and in part A and part B of the Code, it be changed to "radio operators".

Secondly, in regulation IV/1 of the Convention, the outdated provision in paragraph 2 for compliance until 1 February 1999 be deleted.

Thirdly, in parts A and B, the term "IMO Merchant Ship Search and Rescue Manual (IAMSAR) be replaced by "International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual" and "IMO" be inserted before "Standard Marine Communication Phrases".

4 PROPOSED CHANGES TO CHAPTER VI (EMERGENCY, OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY, SECURITY, MEDICAL CARE & SURVIVAL FUNCTIONS)

Working Group 2 was also required to review the preliminary draft text of chapter VI. Changes to this chapter arose from the need to address security-related training and fire-fighting training for personnel on tankers.

Preliminary text relating to security training was prepared by STW 38 and included in the draft text for consideration by STW 40, especially with regard to consistency. The WG finalized the preliminary draft without changing the substance of the proposals.

The WG prepared draft amendments relating to fire-fighting training for personnel serving on board tankers. However the proposed table of competence for the Tanker Fire-Fighting course did not contain sufficient competences and KUPs (knowledge, understanding, proficiency) to justify a stand-alone course and the group agreed to keep this table in square brackets for further detailed consideration at the next session.

WG 2 also agreed that if the proposed table of competences could not be considered suitable for a stand-alone course at the next session, then these competences could be considered for inclusion in the table of competence for the fire prevention and fire-fighting course and, consequently, the proposed requirements for the tanker fire-fighting training in chapter VI, as well as regulations V/1-1 and V/1-2 could be deleted.

Regulation VI/1

Mandatory minimum requirements for familiarization, basic training and instruction for all seafarers

A new clause 2 added:

Every party shall compare the security-related training or instruction it requires of seafarers who hold or can document qualifications before the entry into force of this regulation, with those specified in section A-VI/1.2-1 of the STCW Code, and shall determine the need for requiring those seafarers to update their qualifications.

Regulation VI/3

Mandatory minimum requirements for training in advanced fire fighting and tanker fire fighting

A new clause 3 added:

Every candidate for a certificate in tanker fire fighting shall:

- 1 have completed Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting training specified in section A-VI/1-2 of the STCW Code; and
- 2 meet the standard of competence for certificate in tanker fire fighting set out in section A-VI/3, paragraphs 5 to 7, of the STCW Code.

Regulation VI/6

A new regulation:

Mandatory minimum requirements for seafarers with designated security duties

- 1 Seafarers with designated security duties shall meet the standard of competence specified in section A-VI/6 of the STCW Code.
- 2 Where training in designated security duties is not included in the qualifications for the certificate to be issued, a special certificate or documentary evidence, as appropriate, shall be issued indicating that the holder has attended a course of training for designated security duties.
- 3 Every Party shall compare the security training standards required of seafarers who hold or can document qualifications before the entry into force of this regulation with those specified in section A-VI/6 of the STCW Code, and shall determine the need for requiring these seafarers to update their qualifications.

5 Preliminary Revised Draft Text Of Chapter Vi Of The Seafarers' Training, Certification And Watchkeeping (Stcw) Code

Part A

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

Section A-VI/1

Safety Familiarization training

Mandatory minimum requirements for familiarization, basic training and instruction for all seafarers

New sub-section added as follows:

Security-related familiarization training

1-1 Before being assigned to shipboard duties, all persons employed or engaged on a seagoing ship which is required to comply with the provisions of the ISPS Code, other than passengers, shall receive approved security-related familiarization training, taking account of the guidance given in part B to;

- .1 report a security incident;
- .2 know the procedures to follow when they recognize a security threat; and

.3 take part in security-related emergency and contingency procedures.

1-2 Seafarers with designated security duties engaged or employed on a seagoing ship shall, before being assigned such duties, receive security-related familiarization training in their assigned duties and responsibilities, taking into account the guidance given in part B.

1-3 The security-related familiarization training shall be conducted by the ship security officer or an equally qualified person.

Basic safety training

New sub-section added as follows:

Basic security-related training

Basic training or instruction

2-1 Seafarers employed or engaged in any capacity on board ship which is required to comply with the provisions of the ISPS Code on the business of that ship as part of the ship's complement without designated security duties shall, before being assigned to any shipboard duties:

- .1 receive appropriate approved basic training or instruction in security awareness as set out in table A-VI/1-5;
- .2 be required to provide evidence of having achieved the required standard of competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in column 1 of table A-VI/1-5;
 - .2.1 demonstration of competence, in accordance with the methods and the criteria for evaluating competence tabulated in columns 3 and 4 of table A-VI/1-5;
 - .2.2 examination of continuous assessment as part of an approved training programme in the subjects listed in column 2 of table A-VI/1-5;

Transitional provisions

2-2 Until <date of entry into force plus 2 years>, 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 2-1 by:

- .1 approved seagoing service as shipboard personnel, for a period of at least six months in total during the preceding three years; or
- .2 having performed security functions considered to be equivalent to the seagoing service required in paragraph 2-2.1; or
- .3 passing an approved test; or
- .4 successfully completing approved training.

Exemptions

Exemptions from full compliance of this section do not apply to security related familiarization training and basic training in security awareness.

Table A-VI/1-1: Minimum standard of competence in personal survival techniques

No changes

Table A-VI/1-2: Minimum standard of competence in fire prevention and fire fighting

No changes

Table A-VI/1-3: Minimum standard of competence in elementary first aid

No changes

Table A-VI/1-4: Minimum standard of competence in personal safety and social responsibilities

The changes are shown in attachment B

Table A-VI/1-5: Minimum standard of competence in security awareness

The specification is shown in attachment C

Section A-VI/2

Mandatory minimum requirements for the issue of certificates of proficiency in survival craft, rescue boats and fast boats

No changes to the text.

Table A-VI/2-1: Minimum standard of competence in survival craft and rescue boats other than fast rescue boats

Column 3 Methods for demonstrating competence has the following added "or approved simulator training where appropriate".

Table A-VI/2-2: Minimum standard of competence in fast rescue boats

No changes

Section A-VI/3

Mandatory minimum training in advanced fire fighting and tanker firefighting

Proficiency in Tanker Fire Fighting

New sub-section follows:

Standard of competence

5 Every candidate for a certificate in tanker fire fighting shall be required to demonstrate competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in column 1 of table A-VI/3-2.

6 The level of knowledge of the subjects listed in column 2 of table A-VI/3-2 shall be sufficient for the effective fire-fighting operations on board tankers.

7 Every candidate for certification shall be required to provide evidence of having achieved the required standard of competence within the previous five years through:

.1 demonstration of competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in column 1 of table A-VI/3-2, in accordance with the methods for demonstrating competence and the criteria for evaluating competence tabulated in columns 3 and 4 of that table; and

.2 examination or continuous assessment as part of an approved training programme covering the material set out in column 2 of table A-VI/3-2.

Table A-VI/3-1: Minimum standard of competence in advanced fire fighting

No changes

Table A-VI/3-2: Minimum standard of competence in tanker fire fighting

The specification is shown in attachment D.

Section A-VI/4

Mandatory minimum requirements related to medical first aid and medical care

No changes to the text.

Table A-VI/4-1: Minimum standard of competence in medical first aid

Only change is replacement of 'proficiency' in heading by 'competence'.

Table A-VI/4-2: Minimum standard of competence in medical care

Only change is replacement of 'proficiency for persons in charge of medical care on board ship' in heading by 'competence in medical care'.

Section A-VI/5

Mandatory minimum requirements for the issue of certificates of proficiency for ship security officers

Transitional provisions subsection deleted.

Table A-VI/5: Minimum standard of competence for ship security officers

Only change is replacement of 'proficiency' in heading by 'competence'.

Section A-VI/6

Mandatory minimum requirements for those with designated security duties

New section as follows:

Standard of competence

7 Every seafarer who is designated to perform security duties shall be required to demonstrate competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in column 1 of table A-VI/6.

8 The level of knowledge of the subjects listed in column 2 of table A-VI/6 shall be sufficient to enable every candidate to perform on board designated security duties.

7 Every candidate for certification shall be required to provide evidence of having achieved the required standard of competence through:

.1 demonstration of competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in column 1 of table A-VI/6, in accordance with the methods for demonstrating competence and the criteria for evaluating competence tabulated in columns 3 and 4 of that table; and

.2 examination or continuous assessment as part of an approved training programme covering the material set out in column 2 of table A-VI/6.

Transitional provisions

2-2 Until *<date of entry into force plus 2 years>*, 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 2-1 by:

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

- .2 having performed security functions considered to be equivalent to the seagoing service required in paragraph 4.1; or
- .3 passing an approved test; or
- .4 successfully completing approved training.

Table A-VI/6: Minimum standard of competence for seafarers with designated security duties

The specification is shown in attachment E.

6 Preliminary Revised Draft Text Of Chapter Vi Of The Seafarers' Training, Certification And Watchkeeping (STCW) Code

Part B

Guidance regarding emergency, occupational safety, security, medical care and survival functions

Section B-VI/1

Guidance regarding mandatory requirements for familiarization and basic training and instruction for all seafarers

In sub section 2 **Theoretical training** "halon" is deleted from list of fire-fighting agents.

Security-Related Training or Instruction And Security-Related Familiarization

New sub-sections:

9 Seafarers and shipboard personnel are not security experts and it is not the aim of the provisions of the Convention or this Code to convert them into security specialists.

10 Seafarers and shipboard personnel should receive adequate security -related training or instruction and familiarization training so as to acquire the required knowledge and understanding to perform their assigned duties and to collectively contribute to the enhancement of maritime security.

11 Seafarers without designated security duties should complete the basic security-related training or instruction set out in section A-VI/1 at least one time in their career. There is no need for refreshment or revalidation of this training if the seafarer or the shipboard personnel concerned meet the security-related familiarization requirements of regulation VI/1 and participate in the drills and exercises required by the ISPS Code.

12 Those providing "security-related familiarization training" in accordance with paragraph 1-1 of section A-VI/1 should not be required to meet the requirements of either regulation I/6 or section A-I/6.

Sections B-VI/2 and 3

Guidance regarding certification for proficiency in survival craft, rescue boats and fast rescue boats

Guidance regarding training in advanced fire fighting

No changes

Section B-VI/4

Guidance regarding requirements in medical first aid and medical care

New sub-section:

Training programmes for seafarers designated to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in column 1 of table A-VI/4-1 to provide medical first aid on board ship should take into account guidance in the revised International Medical Guide for Ships, as appropriate.

Section B-VI/5

Guidance regarding training and certification for ship security officers

No changes

Section B-VI/6

Guidance regarding training and certification for seafarers with designated security duties

New sub-section:

1 The expression "with designated security duties" in section A-VI/6 denotes those having specific duties and responsibilities in accordance with the ship security plan.

2 Seafarers with designated security duties should complete the training as set in section A-VI/6 at one time in their career. There is no need for refreshment or revalidation of this training if the seafarer or ship personnel concerned meet the security-related familiarization requirements of regulation VI/1 and participate in the drills and exercises required by the ISPS Code.

3 Those providing "security-related familiarization training" in accordance with section A-VI/6 should not be required to meet the requirements of either regulation I/6 or of section A-I/6.

4 In circumstances of exceptional necessity, when the shipboard security-related duties are required to be undertaken by a person qualified to perform designated security-related duties such a person is temporarily unavailable, the Administration may permit a seafarer without designated security duties to perform such duties provided such a person has an understanding of the ship security plan, until the next port of call or for a period not exceeding 30 days, whichever is greater.
