



PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY
(AUTORIDAD MARÍTIMA DE PANAMÁ)
GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF MERCHANT MARINE
(DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE MARINA MERCANTE)
DEPARTMENT OF CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE
(DEPARTAMENTO DE CONTROL Y CUMPLIMIENTO)

F-265
(DCCM)
V.00



MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-#235

To: Ship-owners/Operators, Company Security Officers, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates and Recognized Organizations (ROs).

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.
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.

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.

June 2019, "Added links"

July 2017, "Added Paragraphs 1, 5 and 7".

January, 2012 "Modified Paragraphs 2, 3, and 4"

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any other request should be directed to:

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