

**RESOLUTION MSC.209(81)**  
**(adopted on 18 May 2006)**

**ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE SEAFARERS' TRAINING,  
CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING CODE (STCW CODE)**

THE MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE,

RECALLING Article 28(b) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Committee,

RECALLING FURTHER Article XII and regulation I/1.2.3 of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, hereinafter referred to as "the Convention", concerning the procedures for amending Part A of the Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW) Code,

HAVING CONSIDERED, at its eighty-first session, amendments to Part A of the STCW Code, proposed and circulated in accordance with article XII(1)(a)(i) of the Convention,

1. ADOPTS, in accordance with article XII(1)(a)(iv) of the Convention, amendments to the STCW Code, the text of which is set out in the Annex to the present resolution;
2. DETERMINES, in accordance with article XII(1)(a)(vii)(2) of the Convention, that the said amendments to the STCW Code shall be deemed to have been accepted on 1 July 2007, unless, prior to that date, more than one third of Parties or Parties the combined merchant fleets of which constitute not less than 50% of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping of ships of 100 gross tonnage or more, have notified their objections to the amendments;
3. INVITES Parties to the Convention to note that, in accordance with article XII(1)(a)(ix) of the Convention, the annexed amendments to the STCW Code shall enter into force on 1 January 2008 upon their acceptance in accordance with paragraph 2 above;
4. REQUESTS the Secretary-General, in conformity with article XII(1)(a)(v) of the Convention, to transmit certified copies of the present resolution and the text of the amendments contained in the Annex to all Parties to the Convention;
5. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretary-General to transmit copies of this resolution and its Annex to Members of the Organization, which are not Parties to the Convention.

ANNEX

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SEAFARERS' TRAINING,  
CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING (STCW) CODE**

**PART A**

**MANDATORY STANDARDS REGARDING PROVISIONS OF THE ANNEX TO THE  
STCW CONVENTION**

1 The existing title of chapter VI is replaced by the following:

**“Standards regarding emergency, occupational safety, security,  
medical care and survival functions”**

2 In chapter VI, section A-VI/2, the existing table A-VI/2-2 is replaced by the following table:

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<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Competence</b>	<b>Knowledge, understanding and proficiency</b>	<b>Methods for demonstrating competence</b>	<b>Criteria for evaluating competence</b>
Understand the construction, maintenance, repair and outfitting of fast rescue boats	Construction and outfit of fast rescue boats and individual items of their equipment  Knowledge of the maintenance, emergency repairs of fast rescue boats and the normal inflation and deflation of buoyancy compartments of inflated fast rescue boats	Assessment of evidence obtained from practical instruction	The method of carrying out routine maintenance and emergency repairs  Identify components and required equipment for fast rescue boats
Take charge of the launching equipment and appliance, as commonly fitted during launch and recovery	Assessment of the readiness of launch equipment and launch appliance of fast rescue boats for immediate launch and operation  Understand the operation and limitations of the winch, brakes, falls, painters, motion compensation and other equipment as commonly fitted  Safety precautions during launch and recovery of a fast rescue boat  Launching and recovery of fast rescue boat in prevailing and adverse weather and sea conditions	Assessment of evidence obtained from practical demonstration of ability to control safe launching and recovery of fast rescue boat, with equipment as fitted	Ability to prepare and take charge of the launch equipment and appliance during launching and recovery of fast rescue boat

<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Competence</b>	<b>Knowledge, understanding and proficiency</b>	<b>Methods for demonstrating competence</b>	<b>Criteria for evaluating competence</b>
Take charge of the fast rescue boat as commonly fitted during launch and recovery	<p>Assessment of the readiness of fast rescue boats and related equipment for immediate launch and operation</p> <p>Safety precautions during launch and recovery of a fast rescue boat</p> <p>Launch and recovery of fast rescue boat in prevailing and adverse weather and sea conditions</p>	<p>Assessment of evidence obtained from practical demonstration of ability to conduct safe launching and recovery of fast rescue boat, with equipment as fitted</p>	<p>Ability to take charge of the fast rescue boat during launching and recovery</p>
Take charge of a fast rescue boat after launch	<p>Particular characteristic, facilities and limitations of fast rescue boats</p> <p>Procedures for the righting of a capsized fast rescue boat</p> <p>How to handle a fast rescue boat in prevailing and adverse weather and sea conditions</p> <p>Navigational and safety equipment available in a fast rescue boat</p> <p>Search patterns and environmental factors affecting their execution</p>	<p>Assessment of evidence obtained from practical demonstration of ability to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>.1 Right a capsized fast rescue boat</li> <li>.2 Handle a fast rescue boat in prevailing weather and sea conditions</li> <li>.3 Swim in special equipment</li> <li>.4 Use communications and signalling equipment between the fast rescue boat and helicopter and a ship</li> <li>.5 Use the emergency equipment carried</li> <li>.6 Recover a casualty from the water and transfer a casualty to a rescue helicopter or to a ship or to a place of safety</li> </ol>	<p>Demonstration of operation of fast rescue boats within equipment limitations in prevailing weather conditions</p>

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Competence	Knowledge, understanding and proficiency	Methods for demonstrating competence	Criteria for evaluating competence
		.7 Carry out search patterns, taking account of environmental factors	
Operate a fast rescue boat engine	Methods of starting and operating a fast rescue boat engine and its accessories	Assessment of evidence obtained from practical demonstration of ability to start and operate a fast rescue boat engine	Engine is started and operated as required for manoeuvring

3 The following new section A-VI/5 and table are inserted after the existing table VI/4-2:

**“Section A-VI/5**

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

**Standard of competence**

1 Every candidate for a certificate of proficiency as a ship security officer shall be required to demonstrate competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in column 1 of table A-VI/5.

2 The level of knowledge of the subjects listed in column 2 of table A-VI/5 shall be sufficient to enable the candidate to act as the designated ship security officer.

3 Training and experience to achieve the necessary level of theoretical knowledge, understanding and proficiency shall take into account the guidance in section B-VI/5 of this Code.

4 Every candidate for certification shall be required to provide evidence of having achieved the required standard of competence in accordance with the methods for demonstrating competence and the criteria for evaluating competence tabulated in columns 3 and 4 of table A-VI/5.

***Transitional provisions***

5 Determining professional competence for existing ship security officers who hold or can document qualifications before the entry into force of this regulation shall be established by:

- .1 approved seagoing service as a ship security officer, 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 5.1; or
- .3 passing an approved test; or
- .4 successfully completing approved training.

6 Every person who has been found competent under section A-VI/5, paragraph 5, shall be issued a certificate of proficiency as a ship security officer.

**Table A-VI/5**

**Specifications of minimum standards of proficiency for ship security officers**

<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Competence</b>	<b>Knowledge, understanding and proficiency</b>	<b>Methods for demonstrating competence</b>	<b>Criteria for evaluating competence</b>
Maintain and supervise the implementation of a ship security plan	<p>Knowledge of international maritime security policy and responsibilities of Governments, Companies and designated persons</p> <p>Knowledge of the purpose for and the elements that make up a ship security plan, related procedures and maintenance of records</p> <p>Knowledge of procedures to be employed in implementing a ship security plan and reporting of security incidents</p> <p>Knowledge of maritime security levels and the consequential security measures and procedures aboard ship and in the port facility environment</p> <p>Knowledge of the requirements and procedures for conducting internal audits, on-scene inspections, control and monitoring of security activities specified in a ship security plan</p> <p>Knowledge of the requirements and procedures for reporting to the company security officer any deficiencies and non-conformities identified during internal audits, periodic reviews, and security inspections</p>	Assessment of evidence obtained from approved training or examination	<p>Procedures and actions are in accordance with the principles established by the ISPS Code and SOLAS as amended</p> <p>Legislative requirements relating to security are correctly identified</p> <p>Procedures achieve a state of readiness to respond to changes in maritime security levels</p> <p>Communications within the ship security officer's area of responsibility are clear and understood</p>

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Competence	Knowledge, understanding and proficiency	Methods for demonstrating competence	Criteria for evaluating competence
	<p>Knowledge of the methods and procedures used to modify the ship security plan</p> <p>Knowledge of security related contingency plans and the procedures for responding to security threats or breaches of security including provisions for maintaining critical operations of the ship/port interface</p> <p>Working knowledge of maritime security terms and definitions</p>		
Assess security risk, threat, and vulnerability	<p>Knowledge of risk assessment and assessment tools</p> <p>Knowledge of security assessment documentation including the Declaration of Security</p> <p>Knowledge of techniques used to circumvent security measures</p> <p>Knowledge enabling recognition, on a non-discriminatory basis, of persons posing potential security risks</p> <p>Knowledge enabling recognition of weapons, dangerous substances, and devices and awareness of the damage they can cause</p> <p>Knowledge of crowd management and control techniques, where appropriate</p> <p>Knowledge in handling sensitive security related information and security related communications</p> <p>Knowledge of implementing and co-ordinating searches</p> <p>Knowledge of the methods for physical searches and non-intrusive inspections</p>	<p>Assessment of evidence obtained from approved training, or approved experience and examination, including practical demonstration of competence to:</p> <p>.1 conduct physical searches</p> <p>.2 conduct non-intrusive inspections</p>	<p>Procedures and actions are in accordance with the principles established by the ISPS Code and SOLAS Convention</p> <p>Procedures achieve a state of readiness to respond to changes in the maritime security levels</p> <p>Communications within the ship security officer's area of responsibility are clear and understood</p>

<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Competence</b>	<b>Knowledge, understanding and proficiency</b>	<b>Methods for demonstrating competence</b>	<b>Criteria for evaluating competence</b>
Undertake regular inspections of the ship to ensure that appropriate security measures are implemented and maintained	<p>Knowledge of the requirements for designating and monitoring restricted areas</p> <p>Knowledge of controlling access to the ship and to restricted areas on board ship</p> <p>Knowledge of methods for effective monitoring of deck areas and areas surrounding the ship</p> <p>Knowledge of security aspects relating to the handling of cargo and ship's stores with other shipboard personnel and relevant port facility security officers</p> <p>Knowledge of methods for controlling the embarkation, disembarkation and access while on board of persons and their effects</p>	Assessment of evidence obtained from approved training or examination	<p>Procedures and actions are in accordance with the principles established by the ISPS Code and SOLAS Convention</p> <p>Procedures achieve a state of readiness to respond to changes in the maritime security levels</p> <p>Communications within the ship security officer's area of responsibility are clear and understood</p>
Ensure that security equipment and systems, if any, are properly operated, tested and calibrated	<p>Knowledge of the various types of security equipment and systems and their limitations</p> <p>Knowledge of the procedures, instructions, and guidance on the use of ship security alert systems</p> <p>Knowledge of the methods for testing, calibrating, and maintaining security systems and equipment, particularly whilst at sea</p>	Assessment of evidence obtained from approved training or examination	Procedures and actions are in accordance with the principles established by the ISPS Code and SOLAS Convention

<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Competence</b>	<b>Knowledge, understanding and proficiency</b>	<b>Methods for demonstrating competence</b>	<b>Criteria for evaluating competence</b>
Encourage security awareness and vigilance	<p>Knowledge of training, drill and exercise requirements under relevant conventions and codes</p> <p>Knowledge of the methods for enhancing security awareness and vigilance on board</p> <p>Knowledge of the methods for assessing the effectiveness of drills and exercises</p>	Assessment of evidence obtained from approved training or examination	<p>Procedures and actions are in accordance with the principles established by the ISPS Code and SOLAS Convention</p> <p>Communications within the ship security officer's area of responsibility are clear and understood</p>

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