

	STCW Circ 2013-001 (Rev 1)	
	DEPARTMENT OF MARINE SERVICES AND MERCHANT SHIPPING (ADOMS)	
	Security Training for Seafarers	Ref STCW Section A/VI/6

**Companies operating ships registered in Antigua and Barbuda,
Ships registered in Antigua and Barbuda,
Authorised Filing Agents**

Introduction.

Circular STCW 1998-001 (*Responsibilities of Companies*), outlines the essential responsibilities for Companies in terms of the STCW Convention. That Convention was amended in 2010 (The Manila Amendments) and some of these come into force on 1st January 2014.

Of particular importance are the changes in Security training required for seafarers. This training is required by all personnel employed or engaged on seagoing ships to which the ISPS Code applies. These regulations will be enforced and subjected to Port State Control inspections starting on January 1, 2014. This Circular sets out the requirements and the processes for approval of training.

The STCW VI/6 requirements.

There are now three levels of security training:

1. Security-related familiarisation training:

The amended requirement states that **approved** security-related familiarisation training must be conducted by the Ship Security Officer to all persons employed or engaged in any capacity on ships which are required to comply with the provisions of the ISPS Code, prior to them being assigned shipboard duties. This training should emphasize ship security issues and provide guidance for seafarers to at least be able to:

- report a security incident, including a piracy or armed robbery threat or attack;
- know the procedures to follow when they recognize a security threat; and
- take part in security-related emergency and contingency procedures.

In this, the approach is very similar to that adopted in STCW VI/1 for Safety Familiarisation Training and it is anticipated that the Security Related Familiarisation Training will normally be incorporated into the normal safety familiarisation training programme and incorporated into the ship's ISM system.

Documentary evidence must be kept by the ship to demonstrate that this training has been completed. The existing method of recording the *safety familiarisation training* may be adopted to document the completion of the *security-related familiarisation training*.

Approval of training.

The amended requirement states that the security related familiarisation training must be “approved”. ADOMS will provide evidence of approval to shipowners if they submit the essential details of the security related familiarisation training as incorporated into the ISM system to ADOMS. The procedure should include the topics as set out in Section A/VI/6 of the STCW, the process of documenting the training and the person who will deliver the training.

Submissions should be made electronically to:

ADOMS Inspections and Investigations Division
Steubenstrasse 7B
27568 Bremerhaven
Germany

Tel.: +49 471-14267-11

E-mail: info@marcare.de

Trainers.

The STCW says that the person delivering the training should be the ship’s Security Officer or an “equally qualified person”. ADOMS would confirm that any person holding a Ship Security Officer certificate is regarded as an “equally qualified person” for the purposes of delivering this training.

4. Security awareness training:

In addition to the security-related familiarisation training, security awareness training must be undertaken by all seafarers without designated security duties employed or engaged in any capacity on ships which are required to comply with the ISPS Code. This training leads to the issuance of an STCW Certificate of Proficiency meeting the requirements of Section A-VI/6, paragraph 4, of the STCW Code. On completion of this training, a seafarer will at least be able to:

- contribute to the enhancement of maritime security through heightened awareness;
- recognize security threats; and
- understand the need for, and methods of, maintaining security awareness and vigilance.

This training will generally be part of a shore based course which is approved.

Transitional provisions:

The Manila Amendments allowed for a transitional period during which seafarers who commenced service prior to the date of entry of the requirement can satisfy this security awareness training by demonstrating:

- approved seagoing service for at least 6 months in the previous three years; or
- having performed security functions considered equivalent to 6 months service in the past three years, or
- by passing an approved test, or
- by completing approved training.

That transition period will end on 1st January 2014 and owners are reminded to ensure that all seafarers who require this training acquire the appropriate documentary evidence of training before that date.

However ADOMS has been advised that in some countries final approval of some security awareness training courses has not yet been completed (October 2013). Seafarers who have joined ships before 1st January 2014 and who will be serving on board after 1st January 2014, and who have not been able to attend an approved security awareness training course in accordance with STCW Section A-VI/6.4 prior to joining will not be in possession of documentation showing attendance at an “approved” course.

For these seafarers, and until courses are approved in their country of origin, ADOMS will accept documentary evidence of attendance at any security awareness course that covers the subject material in STCW Table A-VI/6-1 even though the course may not yet be “approved” by the administration in the country of origin. On completion of their contracts these seafarers must complete the approved training before engaging another contract.

3. Seafarers with designated security duties:

This training must be undertaken by seafarers, employed or engaged in any capacity on ships which are required to comply with the provisions of the ISPS Code, who have designated duties under the ships security plan, including anti-piracy and anti-armed robbery-related activities. This training leads to the issuance of a STCW Certificate of Proficiency meeting the requirements of Section A-VI/6, paragraphs 6-8, of the STCW Code 1978, as amended. On completion of this training, a seafarer will at least be able to:

- maintain the conditions set out in a ship security plan;
- recognize security risks and threats;
- undertake regular security inspections; and
- properly use security equipment and systems.

Like the Security Awareness training, this requirement has transitional provisions in place until 1st January 2014. Seafarers with designated security duties who commenced an

approved seagoing service prior to January 1, 2014 can demonstrate competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in column 1 of table A-VI/6-2 of the STCW Code 1978, as amended, by:

- having approved seagoing service as shipboard personnel with designated security duties, for a period of at least 6 months in total during the preceding 3 years, or
- having performed security functions considered to be equivalent to the seagoing service required above, or
- passing an approved test, or
- completing approved training.

Certificates of proficiency on security-related training in security awareness VI/6 (4) and in designated security duties VI/6 (6-8) issued by Member Parties of the STCW Convention will be recognized by Antigua and Barbuda.

Seafarers without designated security duties must complete the security awareness training set out in Section A-VI/6 of the STCW Code 1978, as amended, at least one time in their career.

Oct 2013.