

DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING, GOVT. OF INDIA, MUMBAI.		
Authorized by the	EAC BRANCH File No: ENG/EXAM-17(9)/99-III	QMS 6.2.2
Chief Surveyor	Instruction to Examiners	Circular No.131
	Issue No. 00	Dated : 31.12.15

Sub: Training and examination requirements for existing Electrical Officers for certification under the STCW Convention as Electro Technical Officers- reg.

WHEREAS the International Maritime Organization at its Manila Conference held in June, 2010, adopted a fresh set of amendments to the STCW Convention 1978. One of these amendments deal with new education, training and assessment programs for the increased use of electro technology / control engineering, computerization etc. in modern ship design, construction, instrumentation and operations. Accordingly, it prescribes issuance of new Certificates of Competency (CoC) to a new category of technically qualified and trained officers, for the purpose, in the name of 'Electro-Technical Officer' (ETO).

NOTING that this office has issued the STCW Training Circular No. 01 of 2011(F.No. TR/CIR/6(3)/2011) dated 10.02.11 specifying the pre-sea training and certification requirements for Electro-Technical Officers (under Regulation III/6 of the STCW Convention).

NOTING ALSO that the Training Branch of this office has issued the STCW Training Circular No. 08 of 2011(F.No. TR/CIR/6(5)/2011) dated 06.09.11 specifying the requirement of a bridging course for the Existing Electrical Officers (under Regulation III / 6 of the STCW Convention).

NOTING FURTHER that the Government of India has notified the Merchant Shipping (STCW) Rules, 2014 on 30th July 2014 and the same was implemented, in totality, with effect from 1st January, 2015, vide this office NT/ENG Circular No. 5 of 2014 (F.No. ENG/EXAM-17(9)/99.III pt) dated 23.09.14.

BEING AWARE that the aforesaid two STCW Training Circulars (i.e., 01 of 2011 & 08 of 2011) have been interpreted differently by both the maritime training institutes conducting the ETO training courses and the existing Electrical Officers, leading to different understanding thereof by different stake-holders.

BEING CONCERNED that there are a large number of existing Electrical Officers who are presently sailing on board ships and who are not meeting the requirements of the existing said STCW Training Circular No. 08 of 2011.

NOTING ALSO that the STCW Convention has provisions to deal with the existing Electrical Officers who have twelve months of service prior to 1st January, 2012, and that there is a transition period to deal with all such Electrical Officers who have commenced sea service prior to 01.01.12, but do not have twelve months of service as on 1st January, 2012, to do so, as on 1st July, 2013.

HAVING CONSIDERED the various submissions of the stake-holders on matters pertaining to ETO training, examination and certification of **existing Electrical Officers** for ETO certification and without deviating from the minimum requirements of the STCW Convention, the following norms are stipulated to be complied with by the **existing Electrical Officers**;

- (i) All those Indian seafarers who have completed 1(one) year of sea service as Electrical Officers prior to 1st January, 2012, are required to appear only for oral examinations for obtaining ETO CoC. These candidates are neither required to appear for written papers of the ETO examination nor need to undergo any training courses such as Bridging Course;
- (ii) All those Indian seafarers who have completed 1 (one) year of sea service as Electrical Officers prior to 1st July, 2013 is required to attend a 3 (three) weeks Bridging Course for the existing Electrical Officers and thereafter appear for the ETO Oral examination for obtaining the ETO CoCs. These candidates are not required to appear for written papers of the ETO examination. It is to be noted that the transition period as per the STCW Convention provision is applicable to the Electrical Officers, who have sailed prior to 1st July, 2013, but not to the Trainee / Assistant Electrical Officers. Any other candidate (Trainee / Assistant Electrical Officer or any other nomenclature of Electrical Officer not having performed independent duty as Electrical Officer) will fall under category (iii), as mentioned below. The designation of Assistant Electrical Officer / Electrician / Electro Technical Officer, etc. will be considered as Electrical Officer for the purpose of Electro-technical Officer's assessment and examination, if the company certifies that the seafarer has performed independent duties of Electrical Officer and was not assistant to another Electrical Officer in performing duties of an Electrical Officer on board a ship;
- (iii) Existing Electrical Officers not falling under the category mentioned above at (i) and (ii), but have sailed prior to 1st January, 2015, for a period of 12 months as Electrical Officers, are required to attend 4 months pre-sea ETO course and, thereafter, appear for written and oral examinations to obtain their CoCs as ETOs. This category of Indian seafarers, however, will be

allowed to appear, for the 4 months pre-sea ETO course, irrespective of meeting the eligibility criteria of age, educational qualification, etc, as stipulated in the said STCW Training Circular No. 1 of 2011 dated 10.02.11 of this office;

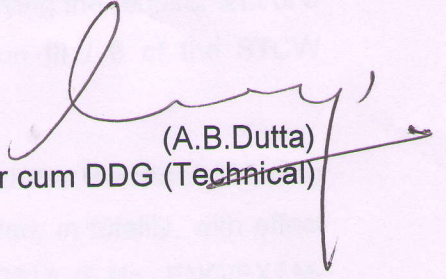
(iv) All other Electrical Officers having performed sea-service on or after 1st January, 2015, as Electrical Officers, Assistant Electrical Officers, Electro-Technical Officers, Electrician, Trainee Electrical Officer, etc, will have to meet the educational qualification and age requirements as stipulated in this office said STCW Training Circular 1 of 2011 for the ETO certification;

(v) Every candidate applying for the ETO examination should be in possession of an Indian CDC & the sea service performed after 01.01.15 should be with an Indian CDC and such sea service shall be endorsed in the Indian CDC;

(vi) Seafarers desirous of obtaining the ETO CoC valid for high voltage ships have to complete the High Voltage Course as per this office said Training Circular No. 1 of 2011, for an issuance of the ETO CoCs valid for High Voltage Ships;

(vii) In anticipation that there may be a large number of candidates desiring to apply for the ETO CoC examinations, henceforth, with effect from January, 2016, the ETO CoC examination will be conducted at all the examination centres concerned, viz., (the Mercantile Marine Departments at Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai and Kochi, every month going forward).

2. This issues with the approval of the Director General of Shipping & Additional Secretary, Govt. of India.


(A.B.Dutta)
Engineer & Ship Surveyor cum DDG (Technical)

To,

1. All Maritime Training Institutes.
2. Principal Officers, MMD, Mumbai / Chennai/ Kolkata/Kochi/ Kandla & SICs, MMDs.
3. Shipping Masters, Mumbai / Kolkata / Chennai.
4. INDOS Branch, DGS, GOI.
5. Nautical Wing, DGS, GOI.
6. Engineering Wing, DGS, GOI.
7. INSA / FOSMA / MASSA/ ICCSA / MUI/AMETO.
8. Management Representative (QMS), EAC Branch in DGS, GOI.
9. Computer Branch, DGS, GOI, with a request to upload in the website of the DGS, GOI..
10. Hindi Branch, DGS, GOI, with a request to provide a Hindi version for dissemination.
11. E-Governance Branch, DGS, GOI.
12. Guard file, DGS, GOI.