Mariner Credentialing Program Policy
Division
CG-CVC-4

James Cavo
This final rule is intended to ensure that U.S. mariners comply with the standards set forth in the STCW Convention and Code and to clarify and update the regulations in 46 CFR subchapter B, Merchant Marine Officers and Seamen.
Major Provisions of the Rule

• Establishes Issuance of Medical Certificates

• STCW Work/Rest Requirements

• Adds New STCW Security Endorsements for Security Awareness and VPDSD

• Establishes STCW Endorsements for Able Seafarer-Deck and Able Seafarer-Engine

• Renewal Requirements for Basic Training, Advanced Firefighting, PSC
Major Provisions of the Rule

- Service, Training, and Assessment Requirements for STCW endorsements
- Changes to STCW Tank Vessel Endorsements
- Qualified Assessors
- Leadership and Managerial/Teamworking Skills
- One-time Renewal Requirements for Engineers
- ECDIS
Major Provisions of the Rule

- Minimum Tonnage for “Unlimited” Licenses
- Aggregate Tonnage for “Unlimited” Licenses
- Language change for National Licenses
- Increased acceptance of Inland and Great Lakes Sea Service
- New Grandfathering for Towing Licenses
- Changes to Some License Exams
- Utility Towing is **NOT** in Final Rule.
Implementation Dates

- **January 1, 2012**: 2010 STCW effective internationally
- **December 24, 2014**: Final Rule published
- **January 24, 2014**: Medical Certificates effective
- **March 24, 2014**: All other provisions are effective
- **July 1, 2015**: Security endorsements required internationally
- **January 1, 2017**: Full compliance with STCW portions of the Final Rule
- **March 24, 2019**: Full compliance with national portions of the Final Rule
Grandfathering

- Portions of rule applicable to MMC endorsements include grandfathering.
- Mariners may qualify for an endorsement under old regulations and policy if they began service or training for their endorsement before March 24, 2014.
- Grandfathering ends January 1, 2017 for STCW endorsements and March 24, 2019 for national endorsements.
- NVIC 02-14
Hours of Rest

• Changes became effective internationally January 1, 2012.

• STCW 2010 changed minimum hours of rest:
  o Minimum of 10 hours in any 24-hour period; and
  o 77 hours of rest in any 7-day period.

• For more information, see CG-CVC Policy Letter 12-05 on the NMC’s web site.
Medical Certification

- Mariners are unable to serve under the authority of their MMC without a valid medical certificate.
- Must be renewed every two years for mariners serving on vessels subject to STCW and pilots.
- Must be renewed every five years for all other mariners.
- All mariners holding STCW endorsements should receive a medical certificate by March 24, 2014.
- Expiration dates will be based upon MMC issuance date however will not exceed two years.
Questions/Feedback

• Questions specific to the final rule: STCWASK@uscg.mil

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