

**Radio-communication (Certificates of Competency for Ship Station Operators)
Regulations 1998**

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No. S 63

TELECOMMUNICATION AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE ACT (CHAPTER 323)

RADIO-COMMUNICATION (CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY FOR SHIP STATION OPERATORS) REGULATIONS 1998

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 131(1) of the Telecommunication Authority of Singapore Act, the Telecommunication Authority of Singapore, with the approval of the of the Minister for Communications hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Radio-communication (Certificates of Competency for Ship Station Operators) Regulations 1998 and shall come into operation on 1st February 1998.

Definitions

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires —

“certificate of competency” means a certificate of competency in radio-communications issued under regulation 3;

“Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union” means the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union signed at Geneva in 1992 and includes every revision or modification thereof to which the Government is a party;

“International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea” means the International Convention signed at London on 1st November 1974, and includes the Regulations annexed thereto, or a subsequent International Convention relating to the safety of life at sea to which the Government is a party and every

regulation which may be annexed thereto;

“radio operator” means a person holding an appropriate certificate issued under regulation 3 or an appropriate certificate recognised under regulation 12;

“Radio Regulations” means the Radio Regulations annexed to the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union and includes every revision or modification thereof to which the Government has ratified or accepted;

“ship” has the same meaning as in the Merchant Shipping Act (Cap. 179) and includes an oil rig;

“ship station” means a station located on board a ship which is not permanently moored;

“station” means a transmitter or receiver or a combination of transmitter and receiver or any accessory thereto which is used or intended to be used for radio-communication;

“STCW Code” means the Seafarer’s Training, Certification and Watchkeeping Code adopted by the 1995 Conference of Practice to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers 1978 and any amendment thereto which has come into force and has been accepted by the Government;

“STCW Convention” means the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers 1978, as amended on 7th July 1995, and any later amendment which has come into force and has been accepted by the Government.

Issue of certificate of competency

3.—(1) The Authority may issue a certificate of competency in radio-communications on being satisfied after examinations that the candidate is qualified to hold a certificate of competency under these Regulations.

(2) The certificate of competency shall be in the form set out in the First Schedule and graded as follows:

- (a) General Operator’s Certificate of Competency; and
- (b) Restricted Operator’s Certificate of Competency.

Declaration to preserve secrecy

4. A holder of a certificate of competency shall make a declaration to preserve secrecy

of correspondence in such form as the Authority may require.

Examinations

5.—(1) The Authority may, at any time, but not less than twice a year, hold examinations for the grades of certificate of competency set out in regulation 3(2) as the Authority considers necessary.

(2) An applicant for an examination for a certificate of competency shall —

- (a) have attained the age of 18 years;
- (b) furnish to the Authority 2 passport size photographs of himself and such personal particulars as the Authority may require; and
- (c) must satisfy the Authority as to his medical fitness (including eyesight and hearing), and hold a certificate issued by a medical practitioner registered under the Medical Registration Act (Cap. 174) attesting to his medical fitness.

(3) The syllabii and other details of examinations for each grade of certificate of competency may be obtained on a written application being made to the Chief Executive.

Fees

6. The fees for —

- (a) an examination for a certificate of competency;
- (b) the issue of a certificate of competency; and
- (c) the issue of a duplicate of a certificate of competency,

are set out in the Second Schedule.

General Operator's Certificate

7. In order to qualify for a General Operator's Certificate of Competency, a candidate shall give proof to the Authority by examination that he has the following knowledge and qualifications:

- (a) detailed practical knowledge of the operation of all the sub-systems and equipment of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System;
- (b) an ability to send and receive messages correctly by radio-telephone and by direct-printing telegraphy;
- (c) detailed knowledge of the Radio Regulations relating to radio-communications, knowledge of the documents relating to charges for

- radio-communications, and of the provisions of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea relating to radio-communications;
- (d) sufficient knowledge of the English language to be able to express himself satisfactorily both orally and in writing; and
 - (e) he satisfies the standard of competence specified in section A-IV/2 of the STCW Code.

Authority of General Operator's Certificate holder to operate radio-communication services

8. The holder of a General Operator's Certificate of Competency is authorised by the Authority to operate the radio-communication services of a ship station licensed under the Radio-communication Regulations (Rg 3) equipped with radio-communication apparatus in accordance with the procedures laid down in the Radio Regulations for the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System.

Restricted Operator's Certificate

9. In order to qualify for a Restricted Operator's Certificate of Competency, a candidate shall give proof to the Authority by examination that he has the following knowledge and qualifications:

- (a) practical knowledge of the operation of all the sub-systems and equipment of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System which is required while the ship is sailing within the range of Very High Frequency coast stations;
- (b) an ability to send and receive messages correctly by radio-telephone;
- (c) knowledge of the Radio Regulations relating to radiotelephony communications and specifically of the part of the Radio Regulations relating to the safety of life;
- (d) an elementary knowledge of the English language to be able to express himself satisfactorily both orally and in writing; and
- (e) he satisfies the standard of competence specified in section A-IV/2 of the STCW Code.

Authority of Restricted Operator's Certificate holder to operate radio-communication services

10. The holder of a Restricted Operator's Certificate of Competency is authorised by the Authority to operate the radio-communication services of a ship station licensed under the Radio-communication Regulations (Rg 3) equipped with radio-communication