

# **Merchant Shipping (Deck Officers) Regulations**

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**MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT  
(CHAPTER 179, SECTION 47)**

**MERCHANT SHIPPING (DECK OFFICERS) REGULATIONS**

**Rg 13**

**REVISED EDITION 1997**

(15th June 1997)

[1st June 1994]

**PART I**

**PRELIMINARY**

**Citation**

**1.** These Regulations may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Deck Officers) Regulations.

**Definitions**

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

“certificate of competency” means a certificate of competency issued by the Director under these Regulations or a certificate which is treated as equivalent to such a certificate by virtue of regulation 6, but does not include a certificate of competency issued by a foreign maritime administration;

“certificate of recognition” means a certificate of recognition issued by the Director under regulation 7(1);”.

“certificate of service” means a certificate of service issued by the Director under regulation 5(2) of the revoked Regulations;

“foreign-going ship” includes every ship employed in trading or going between some place or places in Singapore and some place or places situated beyond the limits prescribed for home-trade ships;

“home-trade ship” means a ship plying solely upon a home-trade voyage;

“home-trade voyage” means a voyage within the following limits:

an imaginary line drawn from a position in the Gulf of Martaban in latitude 16° 15' north, longitude 96° east in a south-easterly direction to a position in latitude 15° north, longitude 97° east, thence due south to a position in latitude 9° north, longitude 97° east, thence in a south-westerly direction to a position in latitude 6° north, longitude 94° east, thence due south to a position in latitude 4° north, longitude 94° east, thence in a south-easterly direction to a position in latitude 8° south, longitude 104° east, thence in an easterly direction to a position in latitude 10° south, longitude 120° east, thence due east to a position in latitude 10° south, longitude 125° east, thence due north to a position in latitude 8° north, longitude 125° east, thence due west to a position in latitude 8° north, longitude 110° east, thence in a 315° direction (N.W. true) to the coast of Vietnam, thence initially westward following the coasts of Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, the West Malaysia and Myanmar to the starting point;

“location” includes any offshore installation, any other installation (whether floating or resting on the sea-bed or the subsoil thereof) or any location at sea defined by reference to its latitude and longitude;

“qualified deck officer” means an officer of the deck department who is qualified in accordance with regulation 4(2);

“revoked Regulations” means the Merchant Shipping (Deck Officers) Regulations (Rg 13, 1990 Ed.) which were in force immediately before 1st June 1994;

“special limit voyage” means a voyage within the following limits:

from a point where the longitude 103° 00' East cuts the West coast of Johor, thence due South to latitude 00° 30' North, thence due East to longitude 105° 00' East, thence due North to latitude 01° 00' North, thence to the point 02° 00' North, 104° 15' East, thence due West to the coast of Johor and thence following the coast of Johor westwards to the starting point;

“tons” means gross tonnage.

### **Application**

3. These Regulations shall apply to all self-propelled ships registered in Singapore.

## **PART II**

### **CERTIFICATION OF DECK OFFICERS**

#### **Qualified deck officers**

4.—(1) Every ship to which these Regulations apply shall carry such number of qualified deck officers as are required by Part III.

(2) For the purposes of these Regulations, an officer shall be qualified if he is for the time being —

- (a) the holder of a relevant certificate of competency issued under these Regulations or a certificate which is treated as equivalent to such a certificate by virtue of regulation 6; or
- (b) the holder of a relevant certificate of competency issued by a foreign maritime administration which is recognised by the Director under regulation 7.

(3) In paragraph (2)(a), “relevant”, in relation to a certificate of competency, means the certificate is, at the material time, valid and in force in relation to the person named in it and is of a class appropriate to the capacity in which the holder is to be employed on the ship or of a higher class.

(4) In paragraph (2)(b), “relevant”, in relation to a certificate of competency issued by a foreign maritime administration, means the certificate is, at the material time, valid and in force in relation to the person named in it and is of a grade appropriate to the capacity in which the holder is to be employed on the ship or of a higher grade.

## **Classes of certificates**

5.—(1) The following classes of certificates of competency shall be issued in accordance with these Regulations:

- (a) Certificate of Competency (Deck Officer) Class 1 (Master Mariner);
- (b) Certificate of Competency (Deck Officer) Class 2;
- (c) Certificate of Competency (Deck Officer) Class 3;
- (d) Certificate of Competency (Deck Officer) Class 4 (Home-Trade Master);
- (e) Certificate of Competency (Deck Officer) Class 5A (Watchkeeper);
- (f) Certificate of Competency (Deck Officer) Class 5; and
- (g) Certificate of Competency (Deck Officer) Class 6.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), a certificate of competency of a class set out in paragraph (1) shall be treated as being a certificate of a class higher than a certificate of any class which is set out after it in that paragraph.

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in paragraph (2), a Class 2 or a Class 3 Certificate of Competency shall not be treated as being higher than or equal to a Class 4 Certificate of Competency for the purposes of the manning of home-trade ships.

(4) No person who is not a qualified deck officer shall take charge of a watch.

## **Certificates equivalent to certificates of competency**

6.—(1) A valid certificate of competency as a deck officer issued by the Minister before 1st August 1986 shall be treated as being equivalent to a certificate of competency as set out against it in the First Schedule.

(2) A valid certificate of competency issued under regulation 5(1) of the revoked Regulations shall be treated as being equivalent to a certificate of competency of the same class issued under these Regulations.

(3) A valid certificate of service issued under regulation 5(2) of the revoked Regulations shall be treated as being equivalent to a certificate of competency of the same class issued under these Regulations, subject to any limitation as to the trading area or description of ship as may be specified by the Director.

(4) Any person who holds a valid Local Trade Master Certificate of Competency issued by the Minister or Director shall be entitled to serve as —

- (a) master in ships of less than 1,600 tons engaged on home-trade voyages; or