

DISCUSSION OF QUALIFICATION FOR STCW ENDORSEMENT AS OFFICER IN CHARGE OF AN ENGINEERING WATCH IN A MANNED ENGINE ROOM OR DESIGNATED DUTY ENGINEER IN A PERIODICALLY UNMANNED ENGINE ROOM ON VESSELS POWERED BY MAIN PROPULSION MACHINERY OF 750 KW/1,000 HP PROPULSION POWER OR MORE (OPERATIONAL LEVEL)

1. GENERAL. This enclosure provides guidance to qualify for an International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended (STCW) as Officer in Charge of an Engineering Watch in a Manned Engine room or Designated Duty Engineer in a Periodically Unmanned Engine room on Vessels Powered by Main Propulsion Machinery Of 750 kW/1,000 HP Propulsion Power or More (OICEW) in accordance with Section A-III/1 of the STCW Code and 46 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 11.329.
2. SEA SERVICE, TRAINING, AND DEMONSTRATIONS.
 - a. In accordance with 46 CFR 11.329(a) and paragraph 2.2 through 2.5 of STCW Regulation III/1, an applicant for an STCW endorsement as OICEW shall be not less than 18 years of age and must provide satisfactory evidence of the following:
 - 1) Service as follows:
 - i) Thirty-six months of seagoing service in the engine department; or
 - ii) Successful completion of an approved training program that includes a combination of workshop skills training and seagoing service of not less than 12 months, and that meets the requirements of Section A-III/1 of the STCW Code;
 - 2) Having performed during the required seagoing service, engine room watchkeeping duties, under the supervision of an officer holding the STCW endorsement as Chief Engineer Officer or as a qualified engineer officer, for a period of not less than 6 months. Since many vessels do not have manned engine rooms, performance of duties associated with engine room maintenance may be substituted for performance of engine room watchkeeping duties;
 - 3) Meeting the standard of competence specified in Section A-III/1 of the STCW Code. This may be done by completing the assessments in Enclosure (s) or an approved alternative; and
 - 4) Having satisfactorily completed approved training in the following subject areas:
 - i) Medical First-Aid Provider;
 - ii) Basic and Advanced Firefighting;
 - iii) Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats Other Than Fast Rescue Boats;

- iv) Engine-Room Resource Management (ERM);
 - v) Engineering Terminology and Shipboard Operations;
 - vi) Auxiliary Machinery;
 - vii) Gas Turbine Plants, to be valid for gas turbine propulsion;
 - viii) Motor Plants, to be valid for motor propulsion;
 - ix) Steam Plants, to be valid for steam propulsion;
 - x) Electrical Machinery and Basic Electronics; and
 - xi) Control Systems.
- b. An applicant for an OICEW endorsement without limitation should complete every assessment in Enclosure (2). This will allow service as an OICEW on any steam, motor, or gas turbine vessel. An applicant for an endorsement as OICEW limited to service on vessels of a specific propulsion mode or vessels without certain equipment systems need not complete assessments that are not applicable to the propulsion modes or systems for which the endorsement will be valid. Applicability of individual assessments to propulsion modes and systems is noted in Enclosure (2). Not performing certain assessments will limit the endorsement to service on vessels of specific propulsion modes and/or vessels that are not equipped with certain equipment or auxiliary systems.
- c. To qualify for an STCW endorsement as OICEW, mariners must provide evidence of meeting the standard of competence for Basic Training (BT) (46 CFR 11.302) and Advanced Firefighting (46 CFR 11.303).
- d. Experience gained in the deck department may be creditable for up to 3 months of the service requirements in paragraph (2)(a)(1)(i) of this enclosure (46 CFR 11.329(b)).
- e. The total days of workshop skills training in an approved training program credited towards the 12-month service requirement, in paragraph (2)(a)(1)(ii) of this enclosure, should not exceed 180 days. Proof of completion of workshop skills training may be provided with documentation of successful completion of assessments or certificate of completion from an approved training program, school, or facility (46 CFR 11.301(a)). Workshop skills training may include, but is not limited to, shore-based laboratories, in-port watchkeeping and/or maintenance, engine room simulator and/or internships in an appropriate field of study (shipyards, power generating station, or facilities where mechanical and electrical systems have to be operated, maintained, and managed).
- f. The assessments in Enclosure (2) should be performed on a vessel of at least 1,000 HP/750 kW with a walk-in engine room (manned or periodically unmanned), generators independent of the main engine, and other independent auxiliaries.
- g. At least one-third of the required seagoing service should have been performed on vessels with each propulsion mode (steam, motor, or gas turbine) the endorsement will be valid for. If at least one-third of the service is not obtained on a given propulsion mode, the OICEW endorsement will not be valid for that mode of propulsion (46 CFR 11.502).

- h. Since many vessels do not have manned engine rooms, experience with engine room maintenance which includes duties under the direct supervision of the Chief Engineer, Second Engineer Officer/First Assistant Engineer, and/or the officer in charge of the watch may be substituted for watch keeping experience.

3. GRANDFATHERING AND TRANSITION PROVISIONS.

- a. Mariners who began training or service for an endorsement as OICEW before March 24, 2014, will not be required to provide assessments until January 1, 2017. Mariners who began the service or training for their endorsement after March 24, 2014, must provide evidence of meeting the standard of competence specified in Section A-III/1 of the STCW Code by completion of the assessments in Enclosure (2), or an approved equivalent alternative.
- b. Until December 31, 2016, training specified in 46 CFR 11.329(a)(3) is not required for mariners who began their service or training for the OICEW endorsement before March 24, 2014. A mariner will be considered to have started service on the first day of their service that meets the requirements for the OICEW endorsement. Training is considered to have started on the first day of training that results in the issuance of an OICEW endorsement.
- c. For the endorsement to be valid on or after January 1, 2017, mariners must satisfactorily complete ERM training and meet the standard of competence in Leadership and Teamwork Skills (46 CFR 11.329(c)).

4. RENEWAL OF ENDORSEMENT.

- a. To be valid on or after January 1, 2017, in addition to the general qualification requirements found in 46 CFR 10.227 to renew a Merchant Mariner Credential, each candidate for a renewal of an STCW endorsement as OICEW must provide evidence of the following:
 - 1) Having satisfactorily completed ERM training and meeting the standard of competence in Leadership and Teamworking Skills as specified in 46 CFR 11.329(c) (if not previously met); and
 - 2) Maintaining the standard of competence in the following areas:
 - i) Basic Training as specified in 46 CFR 11.302(b); and
 - ii) Advanced Firefighting as specified in 46 CFR 11.303(b).
- b. Assessments are not required for renewal of this endorsement.
- c. Should a mariner renew an STCW endorsement as OICEW before January 1, 2017 and not provide evidence of completing training in ERM and meeting the standard of competence in Leadership and Team-Working Skills specified in 46 CFR 11.329(c), the credential will receive a limitation indicating that it is not valid after December 31, 2016.