

Standards of Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping (STCW) Structure

The following is an overview of the chapters contained in the Standards of Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping (STCW), and regulations associated with it.

Convention: The STCW Convention contains basic requirements that are expanded on and explained in the Code. The current revision of STCW Convention, which includes the 2010 Manila amendments, is composed of 17 Articles and 18 Resolutions, specifically Resolutions 1 and 3 through 19.

Code - Part A: Mandatory standards regarding provisions of the annex to the STCW Convention

Part A of the Code, which includes Resolution 2, is mandatory. This part provides the minimum standards of competence required for seagoing personnel. Details are included in a series of tables. This part of the Code is divided into chapters, and the chapters are divided into regulations as detailed below.

Code – Part B: Recommended guidance regarding provisions of the STCW Convention and its annex

Part B of the Code contains recommended guidance, and is intended to clarify and help implement the Convention. It is structured similarly to Part A and, for ease of use, the numbering corresponds to the numbering in Part A.

Chapter I – General Provisions

Regulation I/1 – Definitions and clarifications

Regulation I/2 – Certificates and endorsements

Regulation I/3 – Principles governing near-coastal voyages

Regulation I/4 – Control procedures

Regulation I/5 – National provisions

Regulation I/6 – Training and assessment

Chapter I – General Provisions (continued)

Regulation I/7 – Communication of information

Regulation I/8 – Quality standards

Regulation I/9 – Medical standards

Regulation I/10 – Recognition of certificates

Regulation I/11 – Revalidation of certificates

Regulation I/12 – Use of simulators

Regulation I/13 - Conduct of trials

Regulation I/14 - Responsibilities of companies

Regulation I/15 – Transitional provisions

Chapter II: Master and deck department

Regulation II/1 – Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of officers in charge of a navigational watch on ships of 500 gross tonnage or more

Regulation II/2 – Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of masters and chief mates on ships of 500 gross tonnage or more

Regulation II/3 – Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of officers in charge of a navigational watch and for masters on ships of less than 500 gross tonnage engaged on near-coastal voyages

Regulation II/4 – Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of ratings forming part of a navigational watch

Regulation II/5 – Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of ratings as able seafarer deck

Chapter III: Engine department

Regulation III/1 – Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of officers in charge of an engineering watch in a manned engine-room or as designated duty engineers in a periodically unmanned engine-room

Regulation III/2 – Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of chief engineer officers and second engineer officers on ships powered by main propulsion machinery of 3000 kW propulsion power or more

Regulation III/3 – Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of chief engineer officers and second engineer officers on ships powered by main propulsion machinery of between 750 kW and 3000 kW propulsion power

Regulation III/4 – Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of ratings forming part of a watch in a manned engine-room or designated to perform duties in a periodically unmanned engine-room

Regulation III/5 – Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of ratings as able seafarer engine in a manned engine-room or designated to perform duties in a periodically unmanned engine-room

Regulation III/6 – Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of electro-technical officers

Regulation III/7 – Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of electro-technical rating

Chapter IV: Radio communication and radio operators

Regulation IV/1 – Application

Regulation IV/2 – Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of GMDSS radio operators

Chapter V: Special training requirements for personnel on certain types of ships

Regulation V/1-1 – Mandatory minimum requirements for the training and qualifications of masters, officers, and ratings on oil and chemical tankers

Regulation V/1-2 – Mandatory minimum requirements for the training and qualifications of masters, officers, and ratings on liquefied gas tankers

Regulation V/2 – Mandatory minimum requirements for the training and qualifications of masters, officers, and ratings and other personnel on passenger ships

Chapter VI: Emergency, occupational safety, medical care, and survival functions

Regulation VI/1 – Mandatory minimum requirements for safety familiarization, basic training, and instruction for all seafarers

Regulation VI/2 – Mandatory minimum requirements for the issue of certificates of proficiency in survival craft, rescue boats, and fast rescue boats

Regulation VI/3 – Mandatory minimum training in advanced firefighting

Regulation VI/4 – Mandatory minimum requirements related to medical first aid and medical care

Regulation VI/5 – Mandatory minimum requirements for the issue of certificates of proficiency for ship security officers

Regulation VI/6 – Mandatory minimum requirements for security-related training and instruction for all seafarers

Chapter VII: Alternative certification

Regulation VII/1 – Issue of alternative certificates

Regulation VII/2 – Certification of seafarers

Regulation VII/3 – Principles governing the issue of alternative certificates

Chapter VIII: Watchkeeping

Regulation VIII/1 – Fitness for duty

Regulation VIII/2 – Watchkeeping arrangements and principles to be observed