

## **Maritime Transportation Security Act Training Courses**

Our nation is more secure today because of the hard work and patriotism of vessel and facility operators across the country, and the many associated industries and organizations that have developed to support the goals of the Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA). Training is a key element of the MTSA, and in 2004, the Maritime Administration (MARAD) established a MTSA Training Course Certification process. This process required course providers to submit a course to MARAD, who then contracted with a Coast Guard accepted Quality Standard System (QSS) organization for review.

As of October 1, 2014, that contract is expired, and course providers should now submit courses as directed below. The course provider is responsible to the QSS for all fees associated with the training course submission and review process.

The National Maritime Center will complete the course review for vessel courses. For questions regarding Vessel Security Officer (VSO), Maritime Security for Vessel Personnel with Specific Security Duties (VPSSD) and Maritime Security Awareness (MSA) should contact:

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National Maritime Center  
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The following courses may be submitted directly to a Coast Guard accepted QSS: Facility Security Officer (FSO), Company Security Officer (CSO), Maritime Security for Military, First Responder, and Law Enforcement Personnel (MSLEP), and Maritime Security for Facility Personnel with Specific Security Duties (FPSSD). Below are the current Coast Guard accepted QSSs:

Merwin Olveria  
American Bureau of Shipping (ABS)  
Learning Center Manager  
16855 Northchase Drive  
Houston, Texas 77060  
(281) 877-6406  
[molveria@eagle.org](mailto:molveria@eagle.org)

Effective security training for maritime industry professionals is critical to the success of the nation's security efforts. The Coast Guard may continue to use successful completion of a valid course certified under this process or previously certified under the MARAD contract as meeting certain training requirements under Title 33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 104 and 105. As the Coast Guard continues to develop regulations to establish comprehensive FSO training requirements I strongly encourage them to take approved courses.