

## STCW Frequently Asked Questions: Tankerman Endorsements

- 1. Regarding 46 CFR 13.203 (c), has the specific wording of this section changed under the final rule? Changes to this section would have ramifications regarding crossover between DL and LG endorsements as well as obtaining advanced tanker endorsements under STCW.**

No, only minor grammatical changes have been made to this section.

- 2. With regard to STCW endorsements for advanced oil, chemical and LG when already holding an advanced endorsement, there do not appear to be any provisions to reduce the sea time required from 90 days, other than as a supernumerary in a 30-day program. This makes obtaining an STCW tankerman endorsement based on our national tankerman endorsements much more difficult. There should be a provision to obtain STCW advanced endorsements when crossing over with reduced time similar to the provisions in 13.203.**

The provisions in 13.603, 13.605, and 13.607 were included to provide for the issuance of STCW endorsements in accordance with the Convention through compliance with the requirements for national endorsements. In order to be consistent with the STCW Convention, we have not included a crossover provision from one endorsement to another at the advanced level in this final rule. To alleviate this issue, 13.603(d) 13.605(d) and 13.607(d) all include the option of a 30-day onboard program in order to cross over from one endorsement to another. With regard to those mariners who already hold a valid PIC endorsement and who will be issued an STCW advanced level endorsement in accordance with 13.603(e), 13.605(e), or 13.607(e), they can continue to renew the endorsement without any additional sea service in accordance with 13.120 by showing proof of having completed a course appropriate to the endorsement within the preceding 5 years.

- 3. I want to apply for an STCW endorsement for service on tank vessels. How will policy letter 12-07 affect me?**

Mariners who hold an endorsement for Tankerman-PIC (Barge) qualify for an STCW endorsement for tank vessel service. A mariner who holds or qualifies for an endorsement as Tankerman-PIC (Barge) will qualify for an STCW endorsement for advanced tanker operations with a limitation to vessels that are not self-propelled. The wording of the endorsements has also changed. All applications for an STCW tank vessel endorsement will be issued with the new wording.

**4. I currently have a domestic tankerman endorsement. Will I automatically receive an STCW tankerman endorsement when I apply?**

Yes, applications will automatically be evaluated for STCW tank vessel endorsements. If you have a valid qualification in BST, you will be issued the STCW tank vessel endorsement.

**5. (\*\*ADDED 02/14/14\*\*) Will there be a NVIC on the tankerman endorsements? If so, will it address how sea service should be documented to address type of cargo carried and how to obtain crossovers for vessels certified to carry chemicals and oil?**

Yes. We intend to publish a Tankerman NVIC.

**6. (\*\*ADDED 07/07/14\*\*) Is a tankerman-engineer required to prove participation in at least two transfers of liquid cargo in order to maintain their tankerman-engineer endorsement?**

No. 46 CFR 13.120(d) states that in order to renew a tankerman-engineer endorsement, all the mariner needs to do is produce evidence of: (1) at least 90 days of service during the preceding 5 years onboard a tank vessel for which the endorsement is valid, performing duties appropriate to the tankerman endorsement held; or (2) completion of a course approved for this purpose, appropriate for the endorsement to be renewed, within the previous 5 years.