



MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE SHIPPING CIRCULAR TO SHIPOWNERS NO. 6 OF 2019

MPA Shipping Division
460 Alexandra Road
#21-00, PSA Building
Singapore 119963
Fax: 6375-6231
<http://www.mpa.gov.sg>

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Applicable to: Shipowners, ship managers, masters, chief engineer officers, marine engineer officers, deck officers and ratings of Singapore registered ships subject to the IGF Code.

TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SEAFARERS ON SHIPS SUBJECT TO THE IGF CODE

1. These requirements apply to masters, deck officers, marine engineer officers and ratings serving on ships subject to the International Code of Safety for Ships Using Gases or Other Low-Flashpoint Fuels (IGF Code).
2. The International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 (STCW Convention) was amended¹ to require mandatory minimum training and certification for masters, deck officers, marine engineer officers and ratings serving on board ships subject to the IGF Code. Training and certification requirements are as follows.

Basic Training

3 Officers and ratings who are responsible for designated safety duties associated with the care, use or in emergency response to the fuel on board ships subject to the IGF Code shall complete basic training in accordance with the provisions of section A-V/3 paragraph 1 of the STCW Code and hold certificate of proficiency (COP) in basic training for service on ships subject to the IGF Code.

4 Seafarers who hold valid COP, issued in accordance with regulation V/1-2 paragraphs 2 and 5 of the STCW Convention, for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations are considered to have met the requirements for basic training.

Advanced Training

¹ These amendments had entered into force on 1 Jan 2017.

5. Masters, chief mates, chief engineer officers, second engineer officers and marine engineer officers with immediate responsibility for the care and use of fuels and fuel systems on ships subject to IGF Code, shall, in addition to meeting the requirements of basic training in paragraph 3 or 4 comply with the following.

- i. Complete an approved advanced training for service on ships subject to the IGF Code, meeting the standards of competence specified in section A-V/3 paragraph 2 and table A-V/3-2 of the STCW Code; and
- ii. Have at least one month of approved sea service that includes a minimum of three bunkering operations on board, a ship subject to the IGF Code. Two of the three bunkering operations may be replaced by approved simulator training as part of the advanced training.

6. Officers who hold a valid COP, issued in accordance with regulation V/1-2 paragraphs 3 and 5 of the STCW Convention, in advanced training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations are considered to have met the requirements of advanced training for service on ships subject to the IGF Code.

Application for COP

7. Holders of certificates of competency issued by MPA or those who have completed training in an approved institute in Singapore² can apply for COPs at basic and advanced training for service on ships subject to the IGF Code through MPA's website or MARINET. The cost for application and issuance of COP is Singapore Dollar \$25. COPs have a validity of 5 years.

Revalidation of COPs

8. Holders of COP in basic or advanced training for service on ships subject to the IGF Code, can apply for revalidation at intervals not exceeding 5 years. The requirements for revalidation are:

- i. have completed at least three months sea service in total in the preceding 5 years on board a ship subject to the IGF Code or on board liquefied gas tankers; or
- ii. have attended an approved refresher training in basic or advanced level for service on ships subject to the IGF Code.

Recognition of COP issued by Foreign Maritime Administrations

9. MPA will recognise COP in basic and advanced training, for service on board Singapore registered ships subject to the IGF Code, issued by a foreign maritime administration whose certificates of competency are recognised by MPA. List of countries whose certificates of competency are recognised by MPA is given in Shipping Circular No. 21 of 2017. It is not necessary for MPA to issue flag state endorsement for the recognition of COP.

² Singapore Maritime Academy conducts basic and advanced training for ships subject to the IGF Code, approved by MPA. Details of courses could be obtained from www.sp.edu.sg, Tel: 6772 1316

Familiarisation Training

10. Company³ is responsible to ensure that seafarers serving on board ship subject to the IGF Code, receive appropriate ship and equipment specific familiarisation training as specified in regulation I/14 of the STCW Convention. Documentary evidence of such familiarisation training should be maintained on board.

11. Any query relating to this circular should be directed to the Training Standards Department at Tel: 6375 6222 or email at coc@mpa.gov.sg

CAPT DAKNASH GANASEN
DIRECTOR OF MARINE
MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE

³ The term “Company” means the owner of the ship or any other organisation or person such as the manager who has assumed the responsibility for operation of the ship.