



Maritime and Coastguard Agency

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## Ship Security Officer Certification: Recognition

**Notice to all masters, deck officers, engineer officers and ratings of merchant vessels, and those concerned with maritime training.**

*This note replaces MIN 379*

*This MIN expires 31 July 2014*

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### Summary

From 01 January 2008 the Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping Code (**STCW Code**) included training requirements for Ship Security Officers (**SSOs**).

The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (**MCA**) will accept an SSO certificate issued by another maritime administration if:

- we already accept their Certificates of Competency (**CoCs**), and
- the SSO certificate is issued under STCW Code A-VI/5.

## 1. Introduction

1.1 From 01 January 2008 the STCW Code included training for SSOs, through International Maritime Organization (**IMO**) Resolutions:

- MSC.203(81) 'Adoption of amendments of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended' and
- MSC.209(81) 'Adoption of amendments of the Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping Code (STCW Code)'.

1.2 Under the Merchant Shipping (Training and Certification) Regulations 1997 the MCA accepts CoCs issued by some other maritime administrations for use on UK-registered vessels; but only if there is a successful application for a Certificate of Equivalent Competency (**CEC**).

## 2. Recognition of SSO certificates

2.1 The MCA will accept an SSO certificate issued by another maritime administration if:

- we already accept their CoCs towards the issue of UK CECs, and
- the SSO certificate is issued under STCW Code A-VI/5.

2.2 Therefore, personnel who have an accepted SSO certificate can serve on a UK-registered vessel as the SSO. They do not have to get an MCA SSO certificate.

2.3 A list of accepted CoCs is in the Annex; this was correct at the time of printing. You can get a current list of accepted CoCs from our website or contact us to check if there has been any update.

## More Information

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*An executive agency of the  
Department for  
**Transport***

## Annex

List of maritime administrations whose CoCs are accepted by the MCA.

<b>EU/EEA Member States</b>	<b>Non EU/EEA Countries</b>
Belgium	Australia
Bulgaria	Canada
Croatia	Hong Kong
Cyprus	India
Czech Republic	Iran
Denmark	Jamaica
Estonia	Malaysia
Faroe Islands	Myanmar
Finland	New Zealand
France	Pakistan
Germany	Peoples Republic of China
Greece	Philippines
Hungary	Republic of Korea
Iceland	Russian Federation
Italy	Serbia and Montenegro
Latvia	Singapore
Lithuania	South Africa
Malta	Sri Lanka
Netherlands	Ukraine
Norway	USA
Poland	
Portugal	
Republic of Ireland	
Romania	
Slovenia	
Spain	
Sweden	

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