



Changes to SQA Engineering Examinations leading to a UK Certificate of Competency

Notice to all Ship owners, Masters, Officers, Ratings and those concerned with maritime training.

This notice should be read in conjunction with MSN 1857, MSN 1859 and MIN 524 and replaces MIN 552

This MIN expires 1st July 2021

Summary

This MIN details changes in requirements to obtain a Merchant Navy Second Engineer, less than 3000 kW, unlimited area, III/3 license detailed in MSN 1857, Y4 and Y3 Certificate of Competency currently detailed in MSN 1859 and the Fishing Class 1 (Chief Engineer) license listed in the Engineer Officer (Fishing) Requirements and Syllabuses. This MIN also indicates changes in General Engineering Science (GES) I & II examinations.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This MIN provides notification that the SQA/MCA written examinations route for Merchant Navy Second Engineer, less than 3000 kW, unlimited area, III/3 licenses, as detailed in Section 3.7.2 of MSN 1857 will expire from 01st July 2021. From this date, these examinations will be replaced in favour of the of Small Vessel (SV) Examinations listed under **Section 2**.
- 1.2 The introduction of the Small Vessel (SV) Examinations as listed in MIN 524 have brought about changes to the Fishing Class 1 written examinations. Details of these changes are listed under **Section 3**.
- 1.3 This MIN lists new route requirements for those obtaining a Y4, Y3 and Y2 Certificate of Competency due to changes in SQA examination availability and the introduction of the SV examination structure under **Section 4**.
- 1.4 Notification of changes to the General Engineering Sciences (GES) I & II examination structure and pass marks to be introduced from July 2018 under **Section 5**.



2. **Changes to Merchant Navy Second Engineer, less than 3000 kW, unlimited area, III/3 written examinations.**

There are currently two routes available to obtain the above licence:

Option 1: Successfully complete the written examinations listed in Section 3.7.2 of MSN 1857

Option 2: Complete the following SQA Small Vessel Examinations:

- SV Auxiliary Equipment Part 2;
- SV Applied Marine Engineering;
- SV Chief Engineer Statutory and Operational Requirements; and
- General Engineering Sciences I & II¹

The existing structure of examinations listed under Section 3.7.2 of MSN 1857 as per Option 1 will remain available until 01st July 2021. From this date, all individuals applying for a Second Engineer, less than 3000 kW, unlimited area, STCW Regulation III/3; licence will be required to follow option 2 above.

3. **Changes to Fishing Class 1 (Chief Engineer) Certificate of Competency Written Examination.**

From 31st July 2018, the Engineering Knowledge I & II examination required to obtain a Fishing Class 1 CoC will be integrated into the Small Vessel Engineering certificate structure. Those seeking to gain a Fishing Class 1 CoC must therefore follow **Conversion Route J3** as listed in MIN 524.

In following **Conversion Route J3**, holders of a Fishing Class 2 will be awarded a Fishing Class 1 license alongside a SV Chief Engineer less than 9000KW, less than 3000GT, unlimited area CoC providing they:

- (a) Complete 24 months' seagoing service while holding Class 2 Fishing CoC on fishing vessels of at least 350 kW which includes 6 months of seagoing service on fishing vessels of 750 kW and or more in power;
- (b) Successfully complete the MCA-approved modules and pass the corresponding written examinations for:

- Marine diesel engineering;
- Auxiliary equipment – part I & II;
- General Engineering Science I & II;
- Chief Engineer Statutory and Operational Requirements;
- Applied Marine Engineering;
- Operational Procedures, Basic Hotel Services and Ship Construction;

- (c) Hold the applicable ancillary and safety course certificates listed in section **5 of MIN 524**;

- (d) Hold a valid ENG1 (medical fitness certificate) or accepted equivalent;



(e) Pass the MCA oral examination for Chief Engineer on Small Vessels less than 9,000 kW, less than 3000 GT, unlimited area, III/2 (syllabus available online, go to www.gov.uk and search "Small Vessel Oral Examination Syllabus").

Note: Individuals following the Small Vessel Certificate Structure as a new entrant will be eligible to gain their Fishing Class 2 license at the awarding of the Small Vessel Second Engineer Officer, less than 9000 kW, less than 3000 GT, unlimited area, STCW Convention regulation III/2 Certificate of Competency providing they are able to demonstrate 6 months seagoing service on fishing vessels.

This route will be subject to review to ensure it is aligned with STCW- F (planned for October 2019).

4. New Options for Yacht Certification

From 31st July 2018, all SQA Yacht module examinations will be replaced by corresponding SQA Small Vessel Engineering examination modules. In the event that a candidate has failed to pass a yacht examination module before this date, they will be eligible to apply for a retake of the examination following the Small Vessel certificate examination structure providing they show evidence of a course completion certificate.

The sections following detail changes to progression routes for Y4, Y3, and Y2.

4.1 Progression to Y4

To obtain a Chief Engineer, STCW Convention regulation, III/3, Certificate of Competency - Yacht 4 (Y4), in addition to the requirements² in MSN 1859, you can now choose from the following SQA module options:

Option 1: Successfully complete the MCA-approved modules and pass the corresponding SQA examinations for:

- Yacht SQA Marine Diesel Engineering
- Small Vessel SQA Auxiliary Equipment 1;
- Yacht SQA Operational Procedures, Basic Hotel Services and Ship Construction;

Option 2: Successfully complete the MCA-approved modules and pass the corresponding SQA examinations for:

- Small Vessel SQA Marine Diesel Engineering (which includes clutch and gearbox syllabus);
- Small Vessel SQA Auxiliary Equipment 1;
- Yacht SQA Operational Procedures, Basic Hotel Services and Ship Construction;

From 31st July 2018, the above listed yacht module examinations for Chief Engineer, STCW Convention regulation, III/3, Certificate of Competency - Yacht 4 (Y4) will be replaced by the corresponding Second Engineer Small Vessel modules for the issuance of this licence:

- Small Vessel SQA Marine Diesel Engineering (which includes clutch and gearbox syllabus);
- Small Vessel SQA Auxiliary Equipment 1;
- Small Vessel SQA Operational Procedures, Basic Hotel Services and Ship Construction;

² If you meet the Y4 and Y3 requirements of MSN 1859 and the module options detailed above you will be issued with an NOE that in addition to the normal requirements will inform you whether or not clutches and gearboxes will be a mandatory section of your MCA oral examination.



Those that have completed the yacht module before 31st July 2018 will be eligible to apply for the Certificate of Competency following either option until 31st July 2021³.

- 4.1.1** In all cases (including the route covered in MSN 1859), you must pass the MCA oral examination for “Y4” which will always include a section on clutch and gearbox topics. The Seafarer Training and Certification Branch will indicate this requirement on your Notice of Eligibility (NOE).

4.2 Progression to Y3

To obtain a Chief Engineer, STCW Convention regulation III/3, Certificate of Competency - Yacht 3 (Y3) in addition to the requirements² in MSN 1859 you can now choose from the following SQA module options:

- 4.2.1** If you completed options 1 or 2 detailed in section 4.1 of this MIN to obtain a Y4, you will need to complete Small Vessel SQA Auxiliary Equipment 2 in lieu of SQA Yacht Auxiliary Equipment.
- 4.2.2** If you go straight to Y3 (not holding a Y4 CoC) you will now have the option of completing Small Vessel SQA Auxiliary Equipment 1 and 2 in lieu of SQA Yacht Auxiliary Equipment. If you undertake this route (that does not include Small Vessel Marine Diesel Engineering or SQA Yacht Auxiliary Equipment), you will not cover the clutch and gearbox syllabus. Your oral examination will always include these topics. The Seafarer Training and Certification Branch will indicate this requirement on your Notice of Eligibility (NOE).
- 4.2.3** If you complete the routes outlined in MSN 1859, you may be tested on clutches and gearboxes in the oral examination. This will be at the discretion of the Examiner and is not a mandatory requirement.

4.3. Progression to Y2

Candidates that have completed all Small Vessel modules listed below, will be exempted from the requirement to complete Advanced Hotel Services when obtaining a Y2 Certificate of Competency:

- Small Vessel SQA Marine Diesel Engineering
- Small Vessel SQA Auxiliary Equipment I & II
- Small Vessel Operational Procedures, Basic Hotel Services and Ship Construction
- SQA General Engineering Science I & II
- SQA Applied Marine Engineering

³ Please note the SQA examinations listed in section 2.1 carry a maximum validity of three years. Following expiration of the certificates, individuals will be eligible to sit the corresponding Small Vessel examination.



5 Changes to General Engineering Science I & II Examination Structure

From 31st July 2018, General Engineering Science I & II will be divided into the following sections:

General Engineering Science I examination will be constituted of the following sections:

- Applied Mechanics
- Mathematics

General Engineering Science II examination will be constituted of the following sections:

- Applied Heat
- Electrotechnology and Naval Architecture

Candidates must achieve a pass mark of a minimum of 40% in each section. A minimum of 50% overall must be achieved to pass the module.

6 Exemptions from Second Engineer III/2 Academic Subjects

If you are exempt from the current Second Engineering III/2 academic subjects, you must ensure that you have completed and passed your Engineering Knowledge (EK) Management Level oral examination by 31st July 2020.

7 Course Completion Certificates

Candidates will be required to hold course completion certificates from an approved college to sit SQA written examinations.

8 Exemption from Examinations/Courses

Please note that all exemptions from SQA academic examinations and courses must be referred to IAMI.



More Information

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