



New Guidance and Deadline for the Notification of Assessment Requirement for Some UK Certificate of Competency Holders.

Notice to all Shipowners, Masters, Officers and all those concerned with seafarer training.

This MIN replaces MIN 591

This MIN expires on 30 September 2020

Summary

This MIN replaces MIN 591(M) which was published on 26 March 2019.

The MCA has concluded that there were deficiencies in the quality of safety critical training delivered by an MCA approved STCW Short Course provider. As such it is bringing forward the date previously set out in MIN 591(M) by which it requires identified seafarers to demonstrate compliance with required STCW standards.

Seafarers holding Certificates of Competency (CoC) that were issued on the basis of Short Courses completed at JWC International Private Limited Marine Academy, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India must either complete and pass an online assessment or provide evidence that they have undertaken further approved training by Thursday 2 January 2020.

Failure to comply with this MIN will result in a seafarer's CoC being suspended pending an inquiry which may ultimately result in the cancellation of a seafarer's CoC.

The CoC numbers of those seafarers that are affected by this MIN are listed in the Annexes of this MIN.



1. Background

The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) of the United Kingdom (UK) has delegated training elements applicable under the STCW Code for Merchant Navy seafarers to third-party training centres. These centres are approved by the MCA through audit and ongoing monitoring.

The MCA is responsible for ensuring that approved centres meet the training, assessment and quality standards set out in the STCW Convention Regulation I/6 and I/8 and in accordance with the provisions of section A-I/8 and A-I/8 of the STCW Code. This requirement is also set out in UK legislation in the Merchant Shipping (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping) Regulations 2015, Statutory Instrument 2015 No. 782.

In March 2019 the MCA published MIN 591(M) which explained that the MCA was investigating issues in respect of an MCA approved STCW Short Course provider and that the issues under investigation related to Short Courses underpinning Certificates of Competency (CoC) that had been issued by the MCA.

The MCA further explained that the issues under investigation had resulted in the MCA taking the decision to assess the competency of seafarers who had completed safety critical Short Courses delivered by that provider against the criteria set out in the STCW Convention and Code on a case-by-case basis.

2. New Deadline for seafarers to demonstrate competency

The MCA Short Course provider referred to in MIN 591(M) that was subject to an investigation is JWC International Private Limited Marine Academy, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India ('JWC International').

The MCA has now concluded that JWC International failed to meet required quality standards in a number of respects. As a result, the MCA is concerned that seafarers that completed Short Courses at JWC International may not have received adequate education and training and may therefore not meet the standards of competency required to hold their CoCs and which are critical for ensuring safety.

Consequently, in the interests of securing the safety of ships and persons on them, the MCA has brought forward the deadline for those seafarers affected to demonstrate competency in the areas that were the subject of deficient (and in particular safety-critical) Short Courses. In reaching this decision the MCA has also considered the performance of those seafarers who have already undertaken online testing to assess competency in accordance with the MIN 591(M). Following publication of MIN 591(M), a significant number of those seafarers identified in the Annex to that MIN undertook safety assessments. To date, approximately two-thirds of those seafarers have failed that further assessment. This has heightened the MCA's concerns for the assurance of safety on board vessels and why it is therefore seeking now to accelerate the process for assessing the competence (in particular in relation to safety-critical courses) of all remaining seafarers previously listed in the Annex to MIN 591(M).

All affected seafarers must comply with the relevant steps set out in paragraph 3 of this MIN by no later than Thursday 2 January 2020.

Exceptions to this deadline may be made on a case-by-case basis. A request for an extension should be made by seafarers in writing to



assessments@mcga.gov.uk and should be accompanied by evidence as to why the deadline cannot be met. This evidence should be in the form of company letter if this is related to a seafarer's employment on board a ship, or a medical certificate in case of illness.

Any affected seafarer who fails to do so will have their CoC suspended from 00:01 GMT on Monday 6 January 2020 pending an inquiry being held to establish their competence under section 61 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995, the consequences of which are further set out in paragraph 4 below.

The CoC numbers of affected seafarers are published in the Annexes to this Notice.

3. Guidance for Individual Seafarers

The MCA requires all of the seafarers identified in this Notice to complete an online assessment or retake affected courses at an MCA approved training provider by Thursday 2 January 2020.

The assessment must not be undertaken by a seafarer during active watchkeeping duties or during a seafarer's regulated rest periods as required by Regulation 2.3 of Maritime Labour Convention 2006.

If a seafarer's UK CoC number appears in **Annex A**, that seafarer must now either;

- Complete, and pass the requisite online assessment(s). **OR**
- Undertake further training at an MCA approved Short Course training provider. Affected seafarers can obtain a list of any Short Courses they are required to complete by emailing assessments@mcga.gov.uk. Please include your CoC number in any communication with the MCA.

If a seafarer's UK CoC number appears in **Annex B**, that seafarer must now:

- Supply evidence of having recompleted the indicated STCW Short Course(s)¹ from an MCA approved Short Course training provider.

If a seafarer's UK CoC number appears in **Annex C**, that seafarer must now either:

- Register for, complete, and pass the requisite online assessment(s). Once a seafarer registers they will be sent links to all of the online assessments which are relevant to them. **OR**
- Undertake further training at an MCA approved Short Course training provider. Affected seafarers can obtain a list of any Short Courses they are required to complete by emailing assessments@mcga.gov.uk. Please include your CoC number in any communication with the MCA.

The MCA will be re-contacting the individuals affected by this MIN by email and letter which will be sent on the same day as the publication of this MIN. The email

¹ The STCW Short Course(s) you must retake is indicated to you in your results letter following completion of the MCA online assessment but will be re-provided in the email and letter which are sent out on publication of this MIN



that individual seafarers identified in Annex A and Annex C will receive, will provide the information required to undertake the requisite online assessment.

4. Inquiry into fitness to discharge duties

If a seafarer to whom this notice applies fails to comply with the relevant steps in paragraph 3 of this MIN by 2 January 2020, the MCA may cause an inquiry under s.61 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 to be held by serving a notice of inquiry. The CoC of seafarers subject to such notice will be suspended pending the outcome of the inquiry.

Any inquiry held as a consequence of non-compliance with the terms of this MIN will not be held before Tuesday 31 March 2020.

However, if a seafarer is able to demonstrate competence before Tuesday 31 March 2020, the suspension of their CoC will be lifted and that seafarer will face no further action. A seafarer can demonstrate competence by completing and passing the requisite online assessment(s) or undertaking further training at an MCA approved Short Course training provider, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 above.

If a seafarer fails to demonstrate competence by Tuesday 31 March 2020 then the inquiry will be held at a date to be determined by the MCA. At the inquiry a decision will be made as to the continued suspension or cancellation of the individual's certificate of competency.

5. Guidance for Companies

If a holder of a CoC listed in Annex A, B or C to this MIN is presently serving on board your company's vessel, the company should ensure that the vessel can adequately respond to emergency situations in line with the requirements of the STCW Convention and SOLAS including compliance with the International Safety Management Code (ISM), including that:

- STCW Convention regulation I/14 1.5: "Seafarers, on being assigned to any of its ships, are familiarised with their duties and with all ship arrangements, installation, equipment, procedures and ship characteristics that are relevant to their routine or emergency duties".
- ISM 6.5 "The Company should establish and maintain procedures for identifying any training which may be required in support of the safety management system and ensure that such training is provided for all personnel concerned."

You should note that the holder of a CoC listed in Annex A, B or C will have their CoC suspended from 00:01 GMT on Monday 6 January 2020 unless before then they have complied with this MIN.



5. Helpline Information

The information in this MIN should advise both seafarers and companies of what to do. It also details the implications for those currently working onboard vessels.

However, if you have any further enquires, concerns or are having technical difficulties with the solution provided please contact the MCA on the following details:

Tel: +44(0)203 908 5300

Email: assessments@mcga.gov.uk

The line will be open from 09.30 to 16.30 (UK time)

Please note that this number is a helpline for seafarers and ship owners/operators only. Any press enquiries must be directed to the MCA Press Office.



More Information

Seafarer Training and Certification
Maritime and Coastguard Agency
Bay 2/11
Spring Place
105 Commercial Road
Southampton
SO15 1EG

Tel: +44(0)203 908 5300

e-mail: assessments@mcga.gov.uk

Website Address: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/maritime-and-coastguard-agency

General Enquiries: infoline@mcga.gov.uk

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List of CoC Holders Registered But Not Yet Completed Online Assessments

	CoC0040034	CoC0047412	CoC0058671
CoC0014752	CoC0042416	CoC0048027	CoC0059619
CoC0018444	CoC0042558	CoC0049026	CoC0060227
CoC0025493	CoC0042956	CoC0049431	CoC0060441
CoC0029353	CoC0042982	CoC0049593	CoC0060553
CoC0029748	CoC0043679	CoC0050674	CoC0061070
CoC0030077	CoC0044124	CoC0050679	CoC0061928
CoC0034563	CoC0044712	CoC0052729	CoC0062297
CoC0037517	CoC0045274	CoC0055872	CoC0062425
CoC0038230	CoC0046314	CoC0058074	CoC0062479
CoC0062980	CoC0066532	CoC0070104	CoC0075244
CoC0063250	CoC0067120	CoC0071181	CoC0075349
CoC0063445	CoC0067529	CoC0072590	CoC0075397
CoC0063591	CoC0067811	CoC0073173	CoC0075439
CoC0064500	CoC0068053	CoC0073803	CoC0075517
CoC0064738	CoC0068264	CoC0074590	CoC0075524
CoC0065212	CoC0068359	CoC0074861	CoC0075527
CoC0065604	CoC0068493	CoC0075109	CoC0075595
CoC0065697	CoC0068637	CoC0075209	CoC0075597
CoC0065744	CoC00691241	CoC0075216	CoC0075614
CoC0075646	CoC0075855	CoC0076270	CoC0076555
CoC0075658	CoC0075891	CoC0076284	CoC0076561
CoC0075680	CoC0075952	CoC0076289	CoC0076604
CoC0075721	CoC0075999	CoC0076306	CoC0076616
CoC0075742	CoC0076049	CoC0076370	CoC0076637
CoC0075758	CoC0076112	CoC0076406	CoC0076649
CoC0075820	CoC0076115	CoC0076438	CoC0076670
CoC0075827	CoC0076173	CoC0076472	CoC0076685
CoC0075839	CoC0076175	CoC0076477	CoC0076728
CoC0075851	CoC0076205	CoC0076547	CoC0076769
CoC0076857	CoC0077096	CoC0077583	CoC0078117
CoC0076891	CoC0077108	CoC0077648	CoC0078121
CoC0076908	CoC0077223	CoC0077668	CoC0078184
CoC0076915	CoC0077274	CoC0077692	CoC0078201
CoC0076934	CoC0077334	CoC0077702	CoC0078221
CoC0076961	CoC0077477	CoC0077771	CoC0078238
CoC0077020	CoC0077492	CoC0077783	CoC0078259
CoC0077026	CoC0077512	CoC0077916	CoC0078282
CoC0077067	CoC0077563	CoC0077956	CoC0078320
CoC0077077	CoC0077576	CoC0077972	CoC0078342



CoC0078344	CoC0078861	CoC0079104	CoC0079625
CoC0078356	CoC0078866	CoC0079124	CoC0079644
CoC0078402	CoC0078889	CoC0079167	CoC0079659
CoC0078476	CoC0078918	CoC0079223	CoC0079688
CoC0078505	CoC0078958	CoC0079226	CoC0079838
CoC0078550	CoC0078962	CoC0079306	CoC0079849
CoC0078619	CoC0078997	CoC0079388	CoC0079866
CoC0078660	CoC0079049	CoC0079391	CoC0079996
CoC0078686	CoC0079061	CoC0079554	CoC0080009
CoC0078738	CoC0079074	CoC0079589	CoC0080013
CoC0080071	CoC0080182	CoC0080328	CoC0080483
CoC0080133	CoC0080193	CoC0080401	CoC0080642
CoC0080134	CoC0080224	CoC0080418	CoC0080923
CoC0080168	CoC0080281	CoC0080421	
Total			215



List of CoC Holders Who Have Failed Online Assessments And Have Not Supplied Evidence of ReCompleting STCW Short Course(s)

CoC0030077	CoC0063445	CoC0072590	CoC0076175
CoC0047412	CoC0063445	CoC0074861	CoC0076424
CoC0047412	CoC0063445	COC0075349	CoC0076616
CoC0049593	coc0065212	CoC0075397	COC0076670
CoC0053346	CoC0067120	CoC0075597	COC0076670
CoC0060170	CoC0067563	CoC0075891	CoC0076891
COC0062297	CoC0067811	CoC0075891	CoC0076934
CoC0062425	CoC0067811	CoC0076049	CoC0077648
CoC0062425	CoC0068359	CoC0076049	CoC0077758
CoC0062425	CoC0071181	CoC0076114	CoC0077771
CoC0078121	CoC0078342	CoC0079167	CoC0081711
CoC0078121	CoC0078356	CoC0079167	
CoC0078184	CoC0078619	CoC0079580	
CoC0078184	CoC0078619	CoC0079644	
CoC0078184	coc0078686	CoC0080071	
CoC0078238	coc0078686	CoC0080281	
CoC0078259	CoC0078958	CoC0080281	
CoC0078320	CoC0079049	CoC0080281	
CoC0078320	CoC0079124	CoC0080281	
CoC0078320	CoC0079124	CoC0080281	
Total			71

IMPORTANT: If your UK CoC number is mentioned on the list above, you must supply evidence of having completed courses at an MCA approved training centre. Failure to do so may result in the suspension of your UK CoC.



List of CoC Holders That Must Register and Complete Online Assessments

	CoC0024993	CoC0032414	CoC0040621
	CoC0026587	CoC0033047	CoC0041168
	CoC0029258	CoC0033588	CoC0042876
	CoC0029315	CoC0034866	CoC0043123
CoC0001028	CoC0030042	CoC0035870	CoC0043252
CoC0006635	CoC0030511	CoC0037324	CoC0043551
CoC0011587	CoC0031494	CoC0037515	
CoC0013997	CoC0031527	CoC0038178	
CoC0016019	CoC0031947	CoC0039063	
CoC0024017	CoC0032108	CoC0039965	
CoC0044120	CoC0046923	CoC0050663	CoC0055124
CoC0044386	CoC0046976	CoC0052400	CoC0055173
CoC0044644	CoC0047666	CoC0052468	CoC0055216
CoC0045285	CoC0047686	CoC0053346	CoC0056196
CoC0045333	CoC0048472	CoC0053397	CoC0056241
CoC0045448	CoC0048975	CoC0054018	CoC0056865
CoC0046322	CoC0049296	CoC0054471	CoC0056880
CoC0046353	CoC0049364	CoC0054788	CoC0056914
CoC0046777	CoC0049445	CoC0054909	CoC0056991
CoC0046913	CoC0049757	CoC0055047	CoC0057009
CoC0057788	CoC0059163	CoC0060983	CoC0062804
CoC0058016	CoC0059735	CoC0060999	CoC0062866
CoC0058403	CoC0059877	CoC0061211	CoC0063593
CoC0058429	CoC0059881	CoC0061256	CoC0063859
CoC0058824	CoC0059950	CoC0061520	CoC0064205
CoC0058862	CoC0059954	CoC0061868	CoC0064232
CoC0058937	CoC0060083	CoC0062003	CoC0064417
CoC0058942	CoC0060170	CoC0062518	CoC0064509
CoC0059044	CoC0060448	CoC0062520	CoC0064576
CoC0059092	CoC0060783	CoC0062636	CoC0065490
CoC0067563	CoC0070254	CoC0073771	CoC0075598
CoC0067793	CoC0070555	CoC0073825	CoC0075657
CoC0067794	CoC0071577	CoC0074269	CoC0075759
CoC0068702	CoC0071929	CoC0074297	CoC0075772
CoC0068789	CoC0072305	CoC0074925	CoC0075816
CoC0069459	CoC0072353	CoC0075149	CoC0075870
CoC0069493	CoC0072592	CoC0075206	CoC0075995
CoC0069522	CoC0072749	CoC0075566	CoC0076114
CoC0070032	CoC0073582	CoC0075583	CoC0076132



CoC0070184	CoC0073662	CoC0075590	CoC0076204
CoC0076265	CoC0076505	CoC0076778	CoC0077311
CoC0076286	CoC0076510	CoC0077047	CoC0077321
CoC0076322	CoC0076528	CoC0077102	CoC0077351
CoC0076420	CoC0076539	CoC0077150	CoC0077442
CoC0076424	CoC0076617	CoC0077160	CoC0077474
CoC0076427	CoC0076623	CoC0077184	CoC0077510
CoC0076442	CoC0076625	CoC0077214	CoC0077515
CoC0076445	CoC0076634	CoC0077290	CoC0077542
CoC0076476	CoC0076726	CoC0077309	CoC0077549
CoC0076484	CoC0076757	CoC0077310	CoC0077555
CoC0077659	CoC0078012	CoC0078544	CoC0079086
CoC0077688	CoC0078021	CoC0078653	CoC0079108
CoC0077700	CoC0078083	CoC0078675	CoC0079127
CoC0077758	CoC0078092	CoC0078683	CoC0079221
CoC0077763	CoC0078248	CoC0078691	CoC0079234
CoC0077808	CoC0078251	CoC0078694	CoC0079245
CoC0077825	CoC0078324	CoC0078834	CoC0079319
CoC0077923	CoC0078472	CoC0078874	CoC0079323
CoC0077925	CoC0078475	CoC0078944	CoC0079373
CoC0077930	CoC0078486	CoC0079083	CoC0079394
CoC0079426	CoC0079883	CoC0080468	CoC0080932
CoC0079450	CoC0079930	CoC0080539	CoC0080991
CoC0079563	CoC0080004	CoC0080546	CoC0081268
CoC0079580	CoC0080055	CoC0080558	
CoC0079687	CoC0080172	CoC0080565	
CoC0079715	CoC0080213	CoC0080569	
CoC0079735	CoC0080238	CoC0080576	
CoC0079755	CoC0080286	CoC0080627	
CoC0079833	CoC0080361	CoC0080926	
CoC0079845	CoC0080366	CoC0080930	
Total			269

