



MSN 1859 (M+F) Amendment 1

Training & Certification Guidance: UK Requirements for Engineer Officers on Large Yachts (24m and over)

Notice to all Owners, Masters, Engineer Officers and Crews of Commercially and Privately Operated Yachts and Sail Training Vessels, and those concerned with Maritime Training.

This Notice updates and replaces MSN 1859 (M+F).

This Notice includes guidance for seafarers including the requirements for seafarers who wish to obtain a marine engine operator's licence (yacht), and equivalent arrangements for seafarers on yachts to which STCW requirements are applied by the Merchant Shipping (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping) Regulations 2022. This Notice also includes requirements that training providers must meet for the purposes of approval by the Secretary of State under the 2022 Regulations.

Summary

This Merchant Shipping Notice (MSN) sets out and explains the regulatory requirements regarding the implementation of training elements applicable under Chapter III of the STCW Convention and Code. It outlines the certification structure and examination and training requirements for yacht engineer officers. The route for yacht certification is structured to provide a progressive career path for those in the industry to achieve yacht restricted engineer qualifications. It also details the requirements to obtain engineering qualifications to work on yachts under 750 kW or yachts operating within 150 nautical miles from a safe haven.

This MSN covers:

1. Introduction
2. Engineering Yacht Certificate Structure
3. Mandatory Requirements for Engineers Working on Yachts
4. Alternative Route
5. Yacht Service Requirements
6. Ancillary and Safety Course Certification
7. Approved Education and Training Schemes
8. Medical Fitness and Eyesight Standards
9. Conversions to Yacht Certificates of Competency
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13. The Issue of Your Certificate of Competency
14. Fraudulent Certificates and Seagoing Service
15. Manning Requirements for Yachts

This route will close from 31st December 2022, after which no further Notice of Eligibility will be issued for these yacht oral exams. **Prior to 1st January 2023**, all the yacht modules required for a CoC must be passed prior to the issue of a yacht NOE. **From 1st January 2023**, please refer to the 'Engineering Small Vessel' route set out in MSN 1904. NOE's issued before the closing date of this route will permit you to take the relevant oral exam noted in this MSN. If you pass this exam and can meet the other requirements set out in this Notice you will be issued with the corresponding yacht Certificate of Competency (CoC).

Please note that the revalidation of all yacht CoCs will continue. The process is covered in MSN 1861 (Amendment 1).



The Annexes of this MSN cover:

- A. A flow chart detailing the requirements for the Yacht Certification System
- B. Engine Testimonial for Commercially and Privately Operated Yachts and Sail Training Vessels
- C. Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) Yacht Certificate of Discharge
- D. Approval of Small Vessel Training Providers
- E. Conversions from a UK Certificate of Competency (CoC) or a non-UK CoC

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Merchant Shipping (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping) Regulations 2022 (“the 2022 Regulations”) implement the requirements of the International Convention and Code on Standards of Training, Certification and Watch-keeping (STCW) 1978,¹ (referred to in this MSN as the ‘STCW Convention’ and ‘STCW Code’ respectively), including the provisions prescribing the mandatory minimum requirements for the certification of yacht restricted engineer officers and a reference in this Notice to the 2022 Regulations is a reference to the Regulations as amended.
- 1.2 Regulation 63 of the 2022 Regulations provides for the Secretary of State (in this case, the MCA) to approve alternative training arrangements to those required by the 2022 Regulations so long as those arrangements are equivalent to the requirements of the STCW Convention. The MCA has relied on this provision to adopt and allow for the issue of alternative arrangements to create a certificate structure for yacht restricted Certificates of Competency, which includes privately operated yachts to which the 2022 Regulations apply STCW Convention requirements. On successful completion of this training the MCA issue alternative certification under regulation 7(6) of the 2022 Regulations.
- 1.3 Engineer officers serving in all UK registered yachts and sail training vessels of 24 metres and over in load line length and under 3000 GT must be qualified in accordance with either this Notice or MSN 1857 (Amendment 1)².
- 1.4 Candidates meeting the requirements will be issued with an STCW Certificate of Competency (**CoC**) limited to service in yachts and sail training vessels.
- 1.5 To obtain a United Kingdom STCW CoC you must:
- Meet the minimum age requirement;
 - Complete the minimum period of seagoing service;
 - Undertake the required ancillary technical and safety training;
 - Complete the appropriate programme(s) of education and training, meeting the minimum vocational and academic standard;
 - Meet medical standards (including eyesight);
 - Pass an oral examination conducted by an MCA examiner.

If you are considering a seagoing career it is strongly advised that you have a medical and sight test, which includes testing of colour and visual acuity, before starting training. Please refer to section 8 of this MSN.

¹ The 2022 Regulations revoked and replaced the previous regulations, the Merchant Shipping (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping) Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/782).

² Please refer to MSN 1857 (Amendment 1): www.gov.uk/government/publications/msn-1857-mf-amendment-1-uk-requirements-for-engineer-officers-and-engineer-operators.



1.6 Prior to joining your first vessel for your first sea voyage you will need to hold³;

- A valid ENG1⁴ (medical fitness certificate) or accepted equivalent;
- Personal Survival Techniques (STCW Code – Table A-VI/1-1);
- Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting (STCW Code – Table A-VI/1-2);
- Elementary First Aid (STCW Code – Table A-VI/1-3);
- Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities (STCW Code – Table A-VI/1-4);
- Security Awareness (STCW Code Table A-VI/6-1)⁵.

Apart from ENG1, all the certificates listed above are Certificates of Proficiency required by the 2022 Regulations.

1.7 All references to Certificates of Competency in this notice mean those issued by the MCA (on behalf of the Secretary of State) can be used in an unlimited area of operation, unless otherwise stated.

2. Engineering Yacht Certificate Structure

The manning scales for engineer officers to be carried in motor or sailing yachts and sail training vessels are laid down in section 15 of this Notice.

2.1 Non STCW Certification

Approved Engine Course (AEC): This certificate is issued directly by MCA approved training providers. The training is a prerequisite to obtaining a Marine Engine Operators License (MEOL) for yachts. This certificate can be used on small yachts as per section 15 of this Notice.

Marine Engine Operator's Licence (MEOL) Yacht: This certificate can be used on yachts as per section 15 of this Notice.

The MEOL Yacht and AEC are non STCW certificates. While the MCA recognises these qualifications for use on yachts in areas specified in section 15 of this Notice, it cannot guarantee recognition internationally. If you hold either of these certificates you should check the certification requirements of the local Port State Control Administration prior to entering their jurisdiction.

2.2 STCW Yacht Certification

The following Certificates of Competency (CoC) may be issued to engineer officers restricted to yachts.

³ As required by Section A-VI/1 of the STCW Code, if you are employed or engaged in any capacity onboard a ship with designated safety or pollution-prevention duties, before being assigned to any shipboard tasks you will be required to successfully complete those elements of STCW basic training which are appropriate to your duties and functions

⁴ See section 8 for further details. Details of MCA-Approved Medical Certificates are available from our website: www.gov.uk and search "Seafarer Medical Certificates".

⁵ If you are to serve on ships to which the International Ship and Port Facility (ISPS) Code applies you must hold a Security Awareness certificate (Section A-VI/6, paragraph 4 of the STCW Code, and STCW Code Table A-VI/6-1). If you are assigned designated security duties aboard a vessel you must obtain a Designated Security Duties certificate (Section A-VI/6, paragraphs 6-8 of the STCW Code, and STCW Code Table A-VI/6-2). Please refer to MSN 1865 (Amendment 1): www.gov.uk/government/publications/msn-1865-m-amendment-1-uk-requirements-for-emergency-occupational-safety-security-medical-care-and-survival-functions.



2.3 Requirements to obtain a Chief Engineer, STCW Convention Regulation III/3, Certificate of Competency – Yacht 4 (Y4)

The 'Y4' CoC will carry the following capacity and limitations:

- Chief Engineer commercially and privately operated yachts and sail training vessels less than 200 GT and less than 1,500 kW propulsion power;
- Second Engineer commercially and privately operated yachts and sail training vessels less than 500 GT and less than 3,000 kW propulsion power;
- OOW Engineering commercially and privately operated yachts and sail training vessels only less than 3,000 GT and less than 9,000 kW propulsion power.

2.4 Requirements to obtain a Chief Engineer, STCW Convention Regulation III/3, Certificate of Competency – Yacht 3 (Y3)

The 'Y3' CoC will carry the following capacity and limitations:

- Chief Engineer commercially and privately operated yachts and sail training vessels less than 500 GT and less than 3,000 kW propulsion power;
- Second Engineer commercially and privately operated yachts and sail training vessels less than 3,000 GT and less than 3,000 kW propulsion power;
- OOW Engineering commercially and privately operated yachts and sail training vessels only less than 3,000 GT and less than 9,000 kW propulsion power.

2.5 Requirements to obtain a Chief Engineer, STCW Convention Regulation III/2, Certificate of Competency – Yacht 2 (Y2)

The 'Y2' CoC will carry the following capacity and limitations:

- Chief Engineer commercially and privately operated yachts and sail training vessels less than 3,000 GT and less than 3,000 kW propulsion power;
- Second Engineer commercially and privately operated yachts and sail training vessels less than 3,000 GT and less than 6,000 kW propulsion power;
- OOW Engineering commercially and privately operated yachts and sail training vessels only less than 3,000 GT and less than 9,000 kW propulsion power.

2.6 Requirements to obtain a Chief Engineer, STCW Convention Regulation III/2, Certificate of Competency – Yacht (Y1)

The 'Y1' CoC will carry the following capacity and limitations:

- Chief Engineer commercially and privately operated yachts and sail training vessels less than 3,000 GT and less than 9,000 kW propulsion power;
- Second Engineer commercially and privately operated yachts and sail training vessels less than 3,000 GT and less than 9,000 kW propulsion power;
- OOW Engineering commercially and privately operated yachts and sail training vessels only less than 3,000 GT and less than 9,000 kW propulsion power.

2.7 Yacht engineer officer Certificates of Competency (CoC) will carry the following STCW functions:

- Controlling the operation of the ship and care for persons on board (function 3);
- Marine Engineering (function 4);
- Electrical, electronic and control engineering (function 5);
- Maintenance and repair (function 6).



These will be at the granted at Management level and identified as an “M” on the CoC.

3. Mandatory Requirements for Engineers Working on Yachts

3.1 A summary flow chart showing the requirements for the yacht certification system can be found in **Annex A**.

3.2 Approved Engine Course Certificate (AEC)

To obtain this certificate you must:

- (a) Be at least 18 years of age;
- (b) Successfully complete an Engine Course (AEC) run by an MCA approved training provider of at least 30 hours in duration. The syllabus is available on our website, please search www.gov.uk for “yacht syllabus”.⁶

3.3 Marine Engine Operator’s Licence (MEOL) yacht

To obtain this certificate you must:

- (a) Be at least 19 years of age;
- (b) Since the age of 16 have completed either:
 - 36 months’ service as a dual purpose deck/engineer officer responsible for the maintenance and servicing of yachts of 200 kW or more in propulsion power. **At least 50% of this time must have been spent in the engine room; or**
 - 24 months’ service as a yacht engineer responsible for system maintenance on yachts of 200 kW or more in propulsion power;
- (c) Hold the applicable ancillary certificates listed in section 6;
- (d) Hold an AEC Certificate;
- (e) Hold a valid ENG1 (medical fitness certificate) or accepted equivalent;
- (f) Pass the MCA oral examination for “MEOL Y”.⁷

3.4 Requirements to obtain a Chief Engineer, STCW Convention Regulation, III/3, Certificate of Competency – Yacht 4 (Y4)

To obtain this CoC you must:

- (a) Be at least 19 years of age;
- (b) Since the age of 16 have completed either:
 - 42 months’ service as a yacht engineer, with a minimum of 12 months on yachts of 350 kW or more in propulsion power which inclusive of at least 6 months’ actual seagoing service; **or**
 - 12 months’ service as a yacht engineer, on yachts of 350 kW or more in propulsion power, while holding a yacht MEOL or Merchant Navy MEOL, which includes at least 6 months actual seagoing service; **or**

⁶ For the MCA’s published Oral Examination Syllabi, please refer to the following page and navigate to the section titled ‘Oral Exam Syllabuses’: www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-seafarer-careers-training-provision-and-information.

⁷ For the MCA’s published Oral Examination Syllabi, please refer to the following page and navigate to the section titled ‘Oral Exam Syllabuses’: www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-seafarer-careers-training-provision-and-information.



- 6 months' service as a yacht engineer, of 350 kW or more in propulsion power while, holding a Merchant Navy SMEOL, which includes at least 3 months' actual seagoing service;
- (c) Successfully complete the MCA approved modules and pass the corresponding MCA professional examinations for:
- Marine Diesel Engineering;
 - Auxiliary Equipment;
 - Operational Procedures, Basic Hotel Services and Ship Construction;
- (d) Hold the applicable ancillary technical and safety course certificates listed in section 6;
- (e) Hold a Yachts Skills training certificate given by an MCA approved training provider;
- (f) Hold a valid ENG1 (medical fitness certificate) or accepted equivalent;
- (g) Pass the MCA oral examination for "Y4".⁸

3.5 Requirements to obtain a Chief Engineer, STCW Convention Regulation III/3, Certificate of Competency – Yacht 3 (Y3)

To obtain this CoC you must:

- (a) Be at least 19 years of age;
- (b) Since the age of 16 have completed either:
- 9 months' service as a yacht engineer, on yachts of 350 kW or more in propulsion power, while holding a Yacht 4 CoC, which includes at least 3 months' actual seagoing service; **or**
 - 51 months' service as a yacht engineer, of which at least 21 months must be on yachts of 350 kW or more in propulsion power, which includes at least 9 months' actual seagoing service;
- (c) Successfully complete the MCA-approved modules and pass the corresponding MCA professional examinations for:
- Marine Diesel Engineering⁹;
 - Auxiliary Equipment¹⁰;
 - Operational Procedures, Basic Hotel Services and Ship Construction¹¹;
 - Chief Engineer Statutory and Operational Requirements;
- (d) Hold the applicable ancillary certificates listed in section 6;
- (e) Hold a Yachts Skills Training Certificate given by an MCA approved training provider¹²;
- (f) Hold a valid ENG1 (medical fitness certificate) or accepted equivalent;
- (g) Pass the MCA oral examination for "Yacht 3".¹³

⁸ For the MCA's published Oral Examination Syllabi, please refer to the following page and navigate to the section titled 'Oral Exam Syllabuses': www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-seafarer-careers-training-provision-and-information.

⁹ Not required if you hold a Y4 Certificate of Competency.

¹⁰ Not required if you hold a Y4 Certificate of Competency.

¹¹ Not required if you hold a Y4 Certificate of Competency.

¹² Not required if you hold a Y4 Certificate of Competency.

¹³ For the MCA's published Oral Examination Syllabi, please refer to the following page and navigate to the section titled 'Oral Exam Syllabuses': www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-seafarer-careers-training-provision-and-information.



3.6 Requirements to obtain a Chief Engineer, STCW Convention Regulation III/2, Certificate of Competency – Yacht 2 (Y2)

To obtain this CoC you must:

(a) Have completed either:

- 24 months' service as a yacht engineer, on yachts of 350 kW or more in propulsion power, while holding a Yacht 4 CoC, which includes at least 12 months' actual seagoing service; **or**
- 15 months' service as a yacht engineer, on yachts of 350 kW or more in propulsion power, while holding a Yacht 3 CoC, which includes at least 9 months' actual seagoing service;

(b) Successfully complete the MCA approved modules and pass the corresponding MCA professional examinations for:

- General Engineering Science (GES) I & II;
- Applied Marine Engineering;
- Chief Engineer Statutory and Operational Requirements¹⁴;
- Advanced Hotel Services;

(c) Hold the applicable ancillary certificates listed in section 6;

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

(e) Pass the MCA oral examination for "Yacht 2".¹⁵

3.7 Requirements to obtain a Chief Engineer, STCW Convention Regulation III/2, Certificate of Competency – Yacht 1 (Y1)

To obtain this CoC you must:

(a) Have completed either:

- 12 months' service as a yacht engineer, on motor yachts of 1500 kW or more in propulsion power and at least 500 GT, while holding a Y2 CoC; **or**
- 12 months' service as a yacht engineer, on sailing yachts of 1500 kW or more in propulsion power and at least 1000 GT, while holding a Y2 CoC;

(b) Hold the applicable ancillary certificates listed in section 6;

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

(d) Pass the MCA oral examination for "Yacht 1".¹⁶

4. Alternative Route

4.1 This route has been updated and is now reflected in the new Engineer Small Vessel CoC Notice. Please see section 4.7 of MSN 1904 for further information.¹⁷

¹⁴ Not required if you hold a Y3 Certificate of Competency.

¹⁵ For the MCA's published Oral Examination Syllabi, please refer to the following page and navigate to the section titled 'Oral Exam Syllabuses': www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-seafarer-careers-training-provision-and-information.

¹⁶ For the MCA's published Oral Examination Syllabi, please refer to the following page and navigate to the section titled 'Oral Exam Syllabuses': www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-seafarer-careers-training-provision-and-information.

¹⁷ MSN 1904: www.gov.uk/government/publications/msn-1904-mf-uk-requirements-for-engineer-officer-small-vessel-certificate-of-competency.



5. Yacht Service Requirements

Before being considered for an MCA oral examination you are required to provide evidence of having completed the full amount of qualifying yacht service applicable to the CoC you are applying for.

At least 6 months of the qualifying yacht service must have been performed within the 5 years immediately preceding the MCA's receipt of your application.

Service may be performed on vessels of any flag.

Yacht service must be in the Engine department, onboard yachts, reckoned from the date of engagement to the date of discharge. Yacht service is counted as the time spent on the vessel and excludes leave and other non-working time. A minimum of 4 hours of working duty in 24 hours would count as one full day of service.

Candidates who are serving in a dual engine and deck capacity will have their service counted at a rate of 50%.

5.1 Actual Seagoing Service

Actual seagoing service must be performed on yachts proceeding to sea and in transit. Proceeding to sea means, beyond the categorised waters around the coast of the United Kingdom or beyond the harbour limits for waters outside the United Kingdom.

Actual seagoing service must be in the engine department onboard yachts. A minimum of 4 hours of working duty in 24 hours would count as 1 full day of actual service.

5.2 Yard/Dry Dock Time

Yard time is shipyard service where the vessel is alongside in water, at drydock (the vessel is out of water on blocks), or at a ship service facility (or workshop facility) out of operation where any of the following are undertaken:

- Overhaul, major service or survey works are carried out on the main engines;
- Overhaul, major service or survey works are carried out on the auxiliary engines;
- Overhaul, major service or survey works are carried out on auxiliary equipment to include (but not limited to):
 - steering gears;
 - pumps,
 - power distribution systems;
 - Gearbox;
 - shafts and propulsors;
 - Fire fighting systems and equipment;
 - hull fittings;
 - and side valves;
- Survey and inspection of service tanks, fuel/fresh water and its systems;
- Work carried out in workshops on any of the above equipment;
- Installation of new systems on board working with contractors.

You should provide evidence regarding all the above maintenance or major repair work/survey on the main or auxiliary systems. The work carried out should contain full details of the completed tasks. The report must be verified and signed off by the Chief Engineer, Master or a company authorised person.



You can include up to 90 days' yard or dry dock time towards the yacht service requirement for each CoC listed in section 3 of this Notice. Yard or dry dock time cannot be counted as 'actual seagoing service'.

5.3 Calculating Yacht and Actual Seagoing Service

A month is defined as a calendar month or 30 days if made up of periods less than 1 month.

5.4 Recording Yacht Service

You are expected to provide evidence of having completed the full amount of qualifying yacht service and actual seagoing service for a CoC before being considered for an oral examination. All service required must be completed and verified to the satisfaction of the MCA. Where there are doubts about the service claimed or it cannot be verified as described below, it will only be accepted upon written confirmation by some responsible person (yacht owner or operator) having personal knowledge of the facts to be established, to the satisfaction of the MCA.

You will be required to present documentary proof of yacht service for each CoC you apply for.

Yacht service **and** actual seagoing service must be documented in one of the following:

- Merchant Navy discharge book supported by yacht service testimonials (**Annex B**); **or**
- Certificates of discharge (**Annex C**) supported by yacht service testimonials; **or**
- Similar MCA approved service record book.

All columns of the yacht service testimonial must be duly filled in and this document must be signed, stamped and dated by the Master or Chief Engineer officer of the ships on which the qualifying sea service has been performed. In exceptional circumstances, a testimonial may be signed by a responsible engineer superintendent of the company. **The MCA will not accept self-certificated seagoing service.**

Seafarers who, after having signed crew agreements, have neglected to join their vessels, or, who after having joined have left their ships other than upon discharge, or who have committed misconduct onboard, will be required to produce satisfactory proof of 2 years' subsequent onboard yacht service with good conduct at sea prior to being issued an NOE or CoC. This period maybe reduced at the discretion of the MCA.

6. Ancillary and Safety Course Certification

6.1 The ancillary technical and safety courses that are required for the issue of each CoC are contained in the table below. On successful completion of each course you will be issued with an STCW Certificate of Proficiency (CoP).

The ancillary technical courses form part of the education and training specified in sections; A-III/1 and A-III/2 of the STCW Code. The safety courses form part of the mandatory training for emergency, occupational safety, security, medical care and survival functions specified in chapter A-VI of the STCW Code.

You must successfully complete **all** of the required ancillary technical and safety training applicable to the CoC you are applying for



Ancillary Course Certificate	MEOL Y	Y4 & Y3	Y2 & Y1	STCW Reference	Updating required
Personal Survival Techniques ^a	Yes	Yes	Yes	A-V1/1-1	•
Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting ^a	Yes	Yes	Yes	A-VI/1-2	•
Elementary First Aid ^a	Yes	Yes	Yes	A-V1/1-3	
Personal Safety and Social Responsibility ^a	Yes	Yes	Yes	A-V1/1-4	
Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats ^b	Yes	Yes	Yes	A-V1/2	•
Advanced Fire Fighting ^b	Yes	Yes	Yes	A-VI/3	•
Medical First Aid ^b	Yes	Yes	Yes	A-V1/4-1	
High Voltage (Operational) ^c	N/A	Optional		A-III/1	
High Voltage (Management) ^c	N/A	N/A	Optional	A-III/2	
HELM (Operational) ^c		Yes		A-III/1	
HELM (Management) ^c			Yes	A-III/2	

- You will be required to provide documentary evidence of either completing the training course or updating your training within the preceding 5 years for all CoC applications. To satisfy Port State Control requirements you will need to hold evidence onboard your vessel of completing or updating your training within the last 5 years. For further information relating to STCW course certificates, including their validity, please refer to MSN 1865 (Amendment 1).

For the issue of a CoC:

- a** – The MCA will accept certificates issued under the authority of any IMO 'White List' country.
- b** – The MCA will accept certificates issued under the authority of any EU Member State; as well as by any country noted in MIN 643¹⁸.
- c** – Certificates must be MCA-approved.

6.2 For yacht Certificates of Competency only: The MCA strongly recommends all yacht officers complete a STCW CoP in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats given by an MCA approved training provider. However, as yacht officers operate on vessels without davit launch lifeboats, the MCA is permitting these officers to complete a CoP in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats (Other than fast rescue boats) (Restricted) given by an MCA approved training provider, in lieu of the full course.

6.3 This course will provide the required training to yacht personnel who are required to take charge of a survival craft in emergency situations. This course is intended only for personnel serving on vessels not equipped with davit launched lifeboats. It should be noted that the MCA cannot guarantee acceptance of a CoP in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats (Other than fast rescue boats) (Restricted) outside of the UK.

¹⁸ For further details please refer to MIN 643 www.gov.uk/government/publications/min-643-m-maritime-and-coastguard-agency-mca-short-course-approval-process-guidance.



- 6.4 For yacht Certificates of Competency only, a CoP in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats (Other than fast rescue boats) (Restricted) may be accepted in lieu of Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats; however, your Certificate of Competency will be endorsed with the following limitation:

“Not for use on ships equipped with davit launched lifeboats”

- 6.5 Engineer officers on yachts who hold a CoP in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats (Other than fast rescue boats) (Restricted) given by an MCA approved training provider, will need to meet the requirement to update this course every five years course. This is in line with Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats course. The refresher course is intended for use on yachts that are not equipped with davit launched lifeboats.

6.6 Human Element and Leadership and Management (HELM)

The HELM course forms part of the education and training required to obtain a UK CoC. HELM aims to provide you with the leadership and managerial skills required by the STCW code.

6.7 High Voltage (HV)

The high voltage course forms part of the education and training required to obtain a UK CoC. A high voltage (over 1000V) system is where voltage is generated and distributed at high voltage or transformed to and distributed at high voltage. It does not include systems where high voltage is utilised locally e.g. ignition systems, radio transmission, radar and other navigational equipment.

You will not be required to obtain this certificate if you do not intend to work on ships with high voltage systems. If you do not submit a course completion certificate, your CoC will not be valid for service on ships fitted with high voltage (over 1000V) systems.

6.8 Further Information

Further information about Personal Survival Techniques, Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting, Elementary First Aid, Personal Safety and Social Responsibility, Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats, Advanced Fire Fighting, Medical First Aid, Medical Care and other required shipboard courses can be found in MSN 1865 (Amendment 1)¹⁹.

7. Approved Education and Training Schemes

- 7.1 Education and training programmes leading to the issue of Certificates of Competency must be approved by the MCA. The MCA will ensure that each programme meets the STCW regulatory requirements. The MCA will monitor and audit all training providers (including nautical colleges) that offer training and education leading to the issue of an STCW CoC. Details of the approval process are contained in **Annex D** and MSN 1856 (Amendment 1)²⁰.

- 7.2 The MCA will monitor and audit all nautical colleges and training providers that offer training and education leading to the issue of an STCW CoC. Examinations for training modules may only be conducted at approved centres. MCA safety and professional examinations will be set and marked only by the MCA or by an appointed body on behalf of the MCA.

¹⁹ Please refer to MSN 1865 (Amendment 1): www.gov.uk/government/publications/msn-1865-m-amendment-1-uk-requirements-for-emergency-occupational-safety-security-medical-care-and-survival-functions.

²⁰ Please refer to MSN 1856 (Amendment 1): www.gov.uk/government/publications/msn-1856-mf-amendment-1-uk-requirements-for-master-and-deck-officers.



7.3 To ensure learning outcomes can be successfully delivered, the MCA requires a classroom attendance rate of at least 90%.

7.4 MCA professional examination college modules last for 3 years. The corresponding MCA professional examinations must be completed within this time or the full course must be repeated. All yacht MCA professional examination certificates are valid for 3 years. The MCA professional examination pass certificates must be in date at the time of the issue of the CoC. GES I and II have no expiry date.

7.5 The contact details for the nautical colleges offering MCA approved yacht training modules are available from the MCA website: www.gov.uk and search “nautical colleges”.

7.6 The syllabuses for the training modules and the associated written examinations are available from MCA website: www.gov.uk “MCA yacht syllabus”.²¹

8. Medical Fitness and Eyesight Standards

8.1 For any CoC, you must meet the medical fitness and eyesight standards as required by the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Medical Certification) Regulations 2010 (S.I. 2010/737)²². Details on the application of those regulations are found in MSN 1886, or any subsequent amendment.²³

8.2 The seafarer medical examination includes a sight test for both colour vision and visual acuity. Failure to meet the statutory requirements will mean that an unrestricted medical certificate cannot be issued. **If you are considering a seagoing career it is strongly advised that you have a medical and sight test, which includes testing of both colour and visual acuity, before you start the training.** You can arrange a separate sight test with a local optometrist by taking along an Application for Seafarer Vision Test Form (MSF 4100). The form can be obtained by contacting an MCA Marine Office or the MCA Seafarer Medical Team: medical@mcga.gov.uk.

8.3 For any CoC you must produce a valid medical fitness certificate, either:

- (a) The UK medical fitness certificate, currently known as an ENG1, issued by a MCA-approved medical practitioner; **or**
- (b) A certificate issued by the administration of any country whose medical fitness certificate is recognised as equivalent to the UK ENG1.

Updated lists are available from the MCA website.²⁴

8.4 The medical fitness certificate must specify the date of examination, the period of validity and any restriction applied.

²¹ For the MCA’s published Oral Examination Syllabi, please refer to the following page and navigate to the section titled ‘Oral Exam Syllabuses’: www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-seafarer-careers-training-provision-and-information.

²² These Regulations are amended by the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Medical Certification) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/242). Further details on the required Medical Fitness Standards and Certification are available from: www.legislation.gov.uk and search “Maritime Labour Convention”.

²³ Details of MCA Approved Medical Certificates are available from: www.gov.uk/seafarer-medical-certificates.

²⁴ Please see the MCA’s Seafarer Medical Certificate guidance for further information regarding MCA-approved medical practitioners and recognised equivalent certificates: www.gov.uk/seafarer-medical-certificates.



9. Conversions to Yacht Certificates of Competency

9.1 A full list of conversions to yacht Certificates of Competency can be located in **Annex E**.

10. Application Procedure

10.1 The application form, MSF 4278, details the procedure and fee to obtain a CoC. You must complete this and submit it to the MCA with the applicable fee and documents listed on the form.

10.2 The application form can be found on our website, go to www.gov.uk and search "MSF 4278".²⁵

10.3 If you are required to pass an MCA oral examination and you meet the requirements specified on the application form, you will be issued with a Notice of Eligibility (NOE).

11 Notice of Eligibility (NOE)

11.1 You will be issued with an NOE once you have met the requirements specified below. The NOE will allow you to book an MCA oral examination.

11.2 At least 6 months of the qualifying seagoing service must have been performed within the 5 years immediately preceding the issue of an NOE.

11.3 Prior to the issue of your NOE you must submit:

- The applicable fee for the CoC you are applying for;
- An ENG1 (medical fitness certificate) or accepted equivalent²⁶;
- A passport (attested copy only);
- The required photos for your CoC (see application form);
- Proof of the required yacht and watchkeeping service, applicable to the CoC you are applying for.

11.4 For a first UK CoC you must also submit:

- STCW Basic Safety Training certificates:
 - Personal Survival Techniques (STCW Code – Table A-VI/1-1);
 - Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting (STCW Code – Table A-VI/1-2);
 - Elementary First Aid (STCW Code – Table A-VI/1-3);
 - Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities (STCW Code – Table A-VI/1-4).

11.5 **An NOE provides you with the offer of an MCA oral examination and is valid for period of 5 years from the date of issue.** The date of issue will be put on your NOE. After this period has elapsed you will need to make a new application, with the supporting documentation and the appropriate fee, to the MCA so that your current competency can be assessed to ensure you meet the required standards.²⁷

²⁵ MSF 4278: www.gov.uk/government/publications/certificate-of-competency-yacht-engine-msf-4278

²⁶ To go to sea you must have obtained a valid medical fitness certificate. Whilst this may have expired when you apply for your NOE, it must be valid at the time when we issue your Certificate of Competency.

²⁷ If you do not pass your oral exam within this timescale, your application will be rejected and the appropriate fee will be taken.



12 MCA Oral Examination

- 12.1 You must take your current passport (with visa if applicable) to the oral examination as a means of identification.
- 12.2 It is recommended that you complete all of the education and training before attempting the oral examination as this will provide you with the knowledge upon which the examination is based.
- 12.3 The MCA Examiner will record the result of your oral examination on your NOE.
- 12.4 **Your oral examination pass is valid for a period of 3 years.** This must be in date at the time of the issue of your CoC. The NOE must be returned to the MCA with any outstanding documentary evidence.
- 12.5 If you fail your oral examination you will need to apply to the MCA for another NOE and pay an additional fee for a re-sit oral examination. Details of how to do this can be found on the NOE.
- 12.6 If a candidate fails an oral examination, re-sits may be taken at the following intervals:
- **Second attempt** – at least 2 weeks after the initial examination
 - **Third attempt** – at least 2 weeks after the second attempt
 - **Subsequent attempts** – at least 3 months after the previous attempt
- 12.7 Time periods between examinations can be reduced at the discretion of the MCA Examiner. Where a candidate exhibits a lack of basic competency across the syllabus or makes fundamental errors in areas of safety, the examiner may impose a seagoing service penalty which the candidate must complete before re-sitting the examination.
- 12.8 Further information about the oral examination syllabus can be found on www.gov.uk.²⁸

13 The Issue of Your Certificate of Competency

- 13.1 At least 6 months of the qualifying seagoing service must have been performed within the 5 years immediately preceding the issue of your CoC. A CoC will not be issued until the MCA has received all the documentary evidence confirming you have met the required standard.
- 13.2 **Your MCA professional examination passes (apart from GES I and II) and MCA oral examination must be passed within 3 years prior to the date of the issue of your Certificate of Competency.**
- 13.3 Once issued, your CoC will be valid for a period of 5 years from the date that the qualifying conditions were met. Your ENG1 seafarer medical (or equivalent) must be valid at the time we issue your CoC. Any outstanding fees must be received by the MCA before a CoC can be issued.
- 13.4 **You must check you meet the current regulatory requirements when you make an initial application AND at the time you submit your NOE pass for the issue of your Certificate of Competency.**

²⁸ For the MCA's published Oral Examination Syllabi, please refer to the following page and navigate to the section titled 'Oral Exam Syllabuses': www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-seafarer-careers-training-provision-and-information.



13.5 Further information and guidance is available from our website go to www.gov.uk and search “Yacht Engine CoC”.

14 Fraudulent Certificates and Seagoing Service

14.1 The MCA checks that all of the information you submit in support of your application is accurate and true. We can:

- Verify Certificates of Competency and Watchkeeping certificates issued by foreign administrations;
- Check and verify ancillary and safety course certificates;
- Verify sea service testimonials and discharge book entries;
- Verify all original course completion and exam pass certificates online.
- Where required, request original course completion, ancillary and safety certificates.

14.2 If you submit fraudulent seagoing service records or certificates we will not allow you to proceed with your application. We may also refer your application to the MCA Enforcement Branch who may decide to proceed against you in court. We reserve the right not to let you apply again until after a period specified by the MCA’s Chief Examiner.

14.3 The UK holds a record of all Certificates of Competency issued. The authenticity of a CoC can be verified on request. For more information please email the MCA by email: exams@mcga.gov.uk.

15 Manning Requirements for Yachts

15.1 The manning requirements are the minimum permitted and it is strongly recommended that additional officers are carried where necessary in order to prevent fatigue, particularly in periods of intensive operations. The manning scale is for commercially and privately operated yachts over 24 metres in length. **All passenger ships, and all non-passenger ships of 500 GT or more, are required to have a safe manning document. Passenger ships of under 500GT operating internationally are also required to have a safe manning document on board. Please refer to MSN 1868 (Amendment 1).**²⁹

15.2 Motor Yachts less than 500 GT

Motor Yachts					
Area	Rank	<200 GT <1500 kW	<200 GT <3000 kW	<500 GT <3000 kW	<500 GT <6000 kW
Up to 60 Miles from a Safe Haven	Chief Engineer	AEC ^a	AEC ^{a,b} or MEOL(Y) ^a	Y3 or Y4 ^b	Y1 or Y2 ^b or Y3 ^b
	Assistant Engineer	N/A	N/A	AEC ^a	AEC ^a
Up to 150 Miles from a Safe Haven	Chief Engineer	Y4 ^a or MEOL(Y) ^{a,b}	Y3 ^a or Y4 ^{a,b}	Y3	Y1 or Y2 ^b or Y3 ^b
	Assistant Engineer	N/A	AEC ^a	MEOL (Y) ^a	MEOL (Y) ^a
Over 150 Miles from a Safe Haven	Chief Engineer	Y4	Y4 ^b or Y3	Y3	Y1 or Y2 ^b or Y3 ^b
	Second Engineer	N/A	N/A	Y4 ^a	Y3 ^a or Y4 ^{ab}
	Assistant Engineer	MEOL (Y) ^a	MEOL (Y) ^a	N/A	N/A

²⁹ Please refer to MSN 1868 (Amendment 1): www.gov.uk/government/publications/msn-1868-m-amendment-1-uk-requirements-for-safe-manning-and-watchkeeping.



(a) Can be dual purpose (Deck/Eng) other than the Master if the yacht has been assigned a classification society UMS (Unmanned Machinery Spaces) notation or fulfils the following criteria:

- It has full bridge control of main engine manoeuvring;
- It is fitted with high level bilge alarms in machinery space;
- The engine room alarm system, including the fire alarm if fitted, is relayed to the accommodation and/or the bridge.

(b) Certificate holder is required to have an approved engine manufacturer's course appropriate to the engine type and power range.

15.3 Motor Yachts 500 GT and over, less than 3000 GT

Motor Yachts				
Area	Rank	<3000 GT <3000 kW	<3000 GT <6000 kW	<3000 GT <9000 kW
Up to 60 miles from a Safe Haven	Chief Engineer	Y3	Y2 ^b	Y1
	Assistant Engineer	MEOL (Y) ^a	MEOL (Y) ^a	MEOL (Y) ^a
Up to 150 miles from a Safe Haven	Chief Engineer	Y2	Y2 ^b	Y1
	Second Engineer	Y3	Y3 ^b	Y2 ^b
	Assistant Engineer	N/A	N/A	N/A
Over 150 miles from a Safe Haven	Chief Engineer	Y2	Y1	Y1
	Second Engineer	Y3	Y3 ^b	Y2 ^b
	Assistant Engineer	N/A	N/A	N/A

a) Can be dual purpose (Deck/Eng) other than the Master if the yacht has been assigned a classification society UMS (Unmanned Machinery Spaces) notation or fulfils the following criteria:

- It has full bridge control of main engine manoeuvring;
- It is fitted with high level bilge alarms in machinery space;
- The engine room alarm system, including the fire alarm if fitted, is relayed to the accommodation and/or the bridge.

b) Certificate holder is required to have an approved engine manufacturer's course appropriate to the engine type and power range.



15.4 Sailing Yachts

Sailing Yachts					
Area	Rank	<200 GT <750 kW	<500 GT <1500 kW	<1000 GT <1500 kW	<3000 GT <9000 kW
Up to 60 miles from a Safe Haven	Chief Engineer	AEC ^a	Y4 ^a	Y3 ^a	Y2 ^{ab}
	Assistant Engineer	N/A	AEC ^a	AEC ^a	AEC ^a
Up to 150 miles from a Safe Haven	Chief Engineer	MEOL (Y) ^a	Y3 ^a	Y3 ^a	Y2 ^{ab}
	Assistant Engineer	N/A	MEOL (Y) ^a	MEOL (Y) ^a	MEOL (Y) ^a
Over 150 miles from a Safe Haven	Chief Engineer	MEOL (Y) ^a	Y3 ^a	Y3 ^a	Y1
	Second Engineer	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y3 ^{ab}
	Assistant Engineer	N/A	MEOL (Y) ^a	MEOL (Y) ^a	N/A

(a) Can be dual purpose (Deck/Eng), other than the Master, if the yacht has been assigned a classification society UMS (Unmanned Machinery Spaces) notation or fulfils the following criteria:

- It has full bridge control of main engine manoeuvring;
- It is fitted with high level bilge alarms in machinery space;
- The engine room alarm system, including the fire alarm if fitted, is relayed to the accommodation and/or the bridge.

(b) Certificate holder is required to have an approved engine manufacturer's course appropriate to the engine type and power range.

(c) All vessels of 500 GT or more are required to have a Safe Manning document, as well as passenger ships under 500 GT operating internationally.

Merchant MEOLs and SMEOL

If you hold a Marine Engine Operator Licence (MEOL) you will be eligible to serve as a Chief Engineer Officer on vessels of less than 750 kW in propulsion power operating within the UK near coastal area (150 miles from a safe haven). If you hold a Senior Marine Engine Operator Licence (SMEOL) you will be eligible to serve as a Chief Engineer Officer on vessels of less than 750 kW power without area restrictions. **You should always check with the relevant government administration that the MEOL or SMEOL can be used within their trading areas.** Details of how to obtain a MEOL and/or SMEOL can be found in MSN 1857 (Amendment 1)³⁰.

³⁰ Please refer to MSN 1857 (Amendment 1): www.gov.uk/government/publications/msn-1857-mf-amendment-1-uk-requirements-for-engineer-officers-and-engineer-operators.



More Information

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

Tel: +44 (0) 203 8172200
e-mail: engineering@mcga.gov.uk

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

General Enquiries: infoline@mcga.gov.uk

Published: December 2022

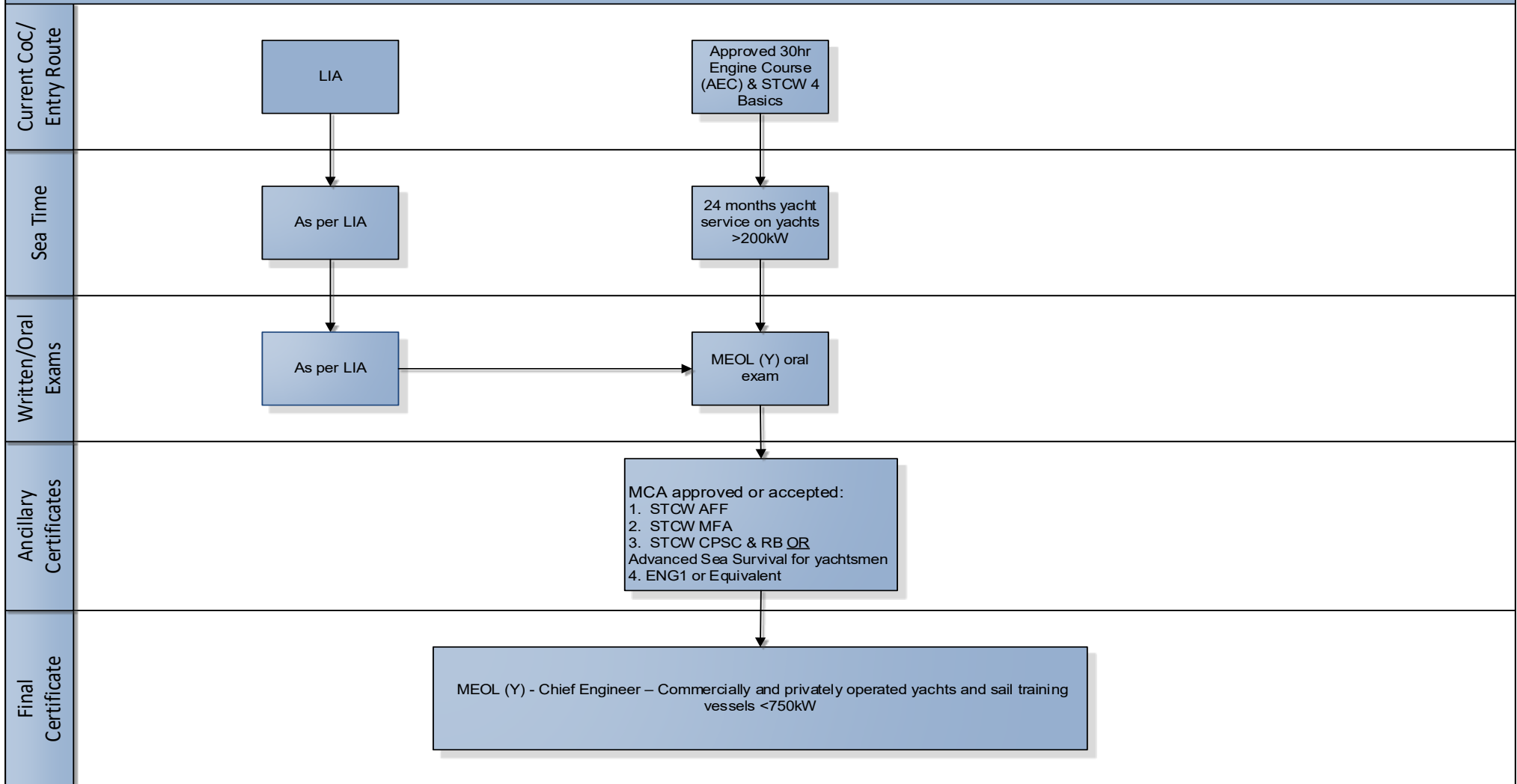
Please note that all addresses and telephone numbers are correct at time of publishing

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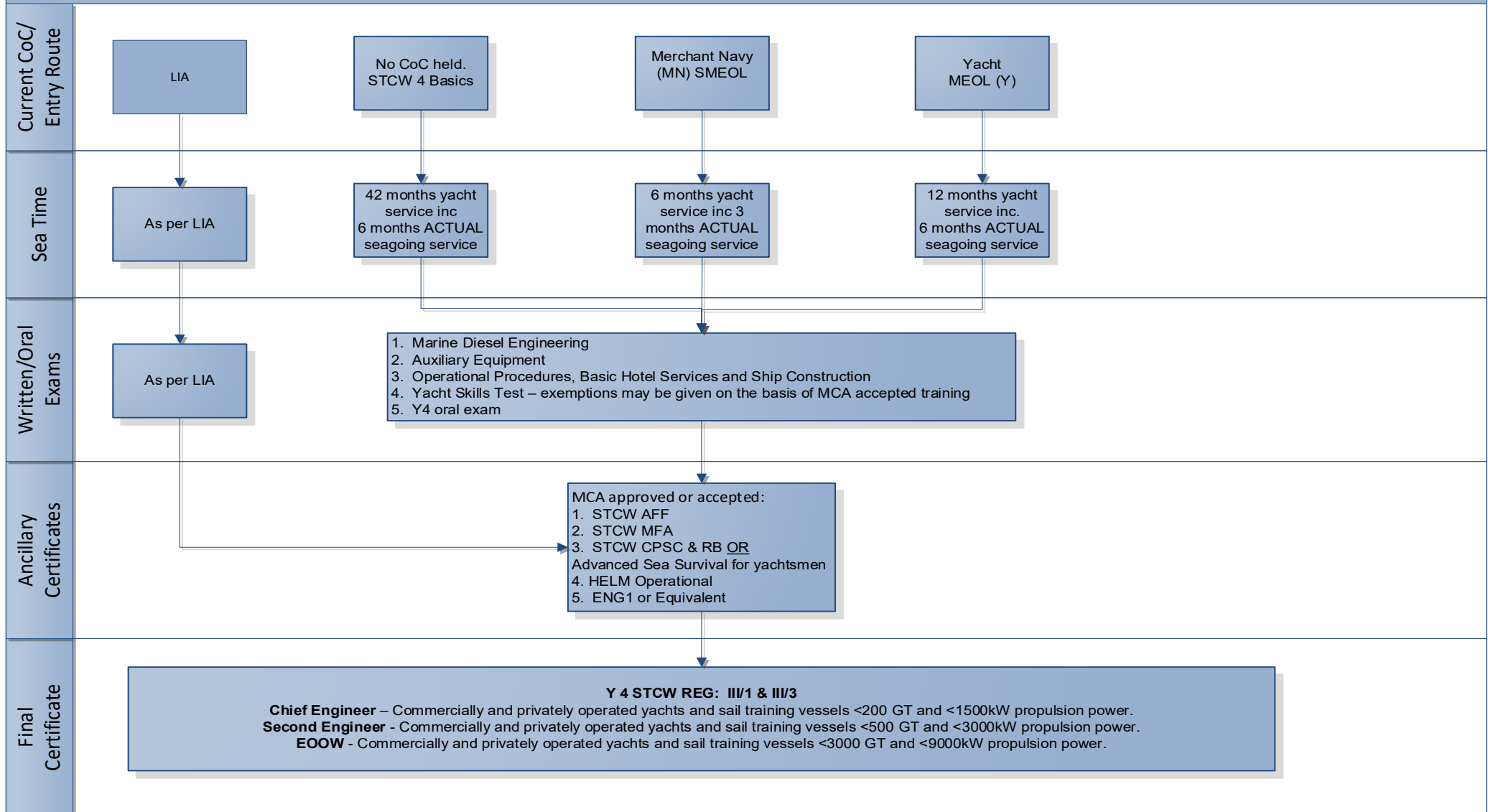
Safer Lives, Safer Ships, Cleaner Seas



Please note this flowchart is designed as a summary, you must refer to section 3.3 of this MSN.



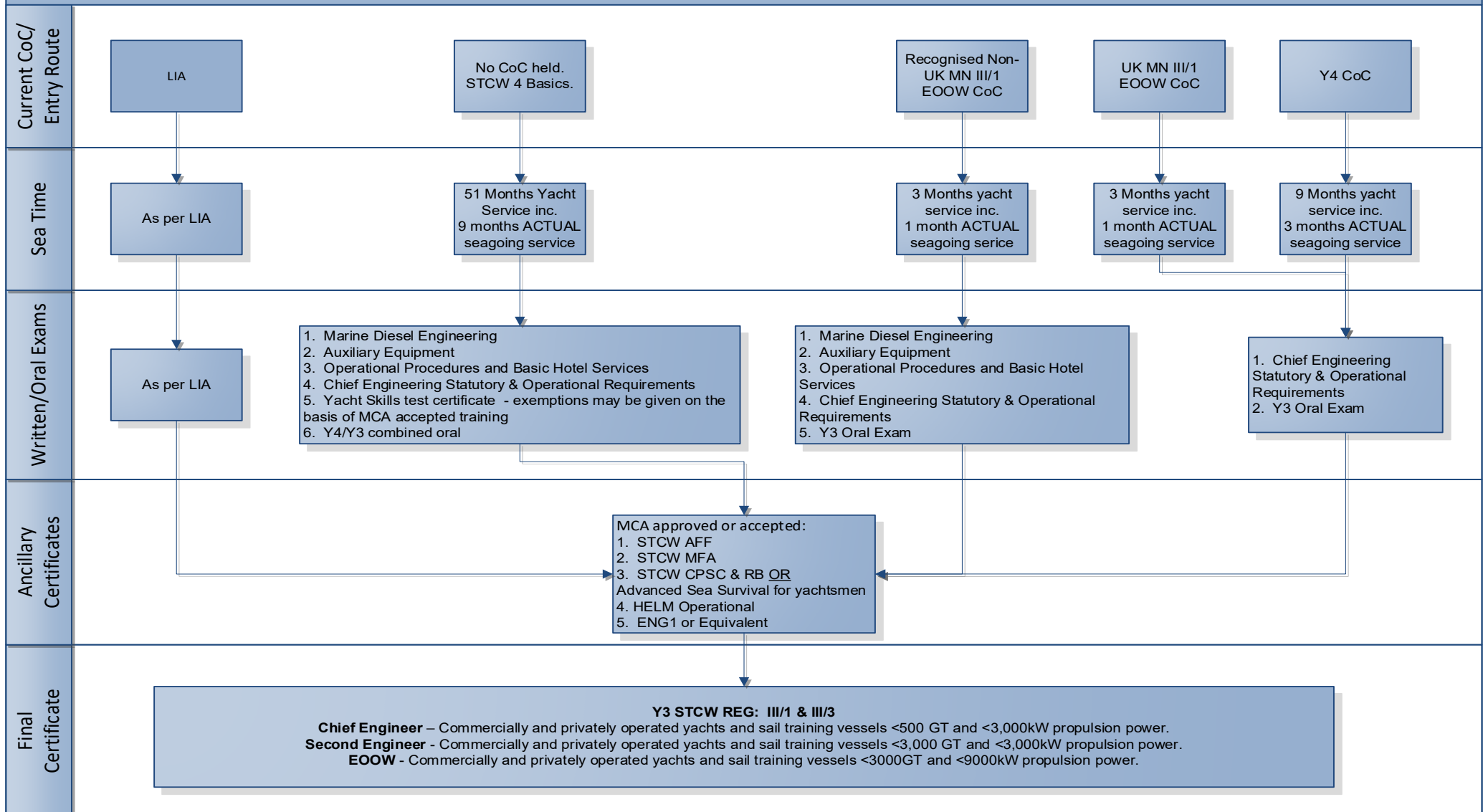
Please note this flowchart is designed as a summary, you must refer to section 3.4 of this MSN.



III/1 & III/3 Yacht 3 – Commercially and Privately Operated Yachts and Sail Training Vessels <500 GT and <3000kW

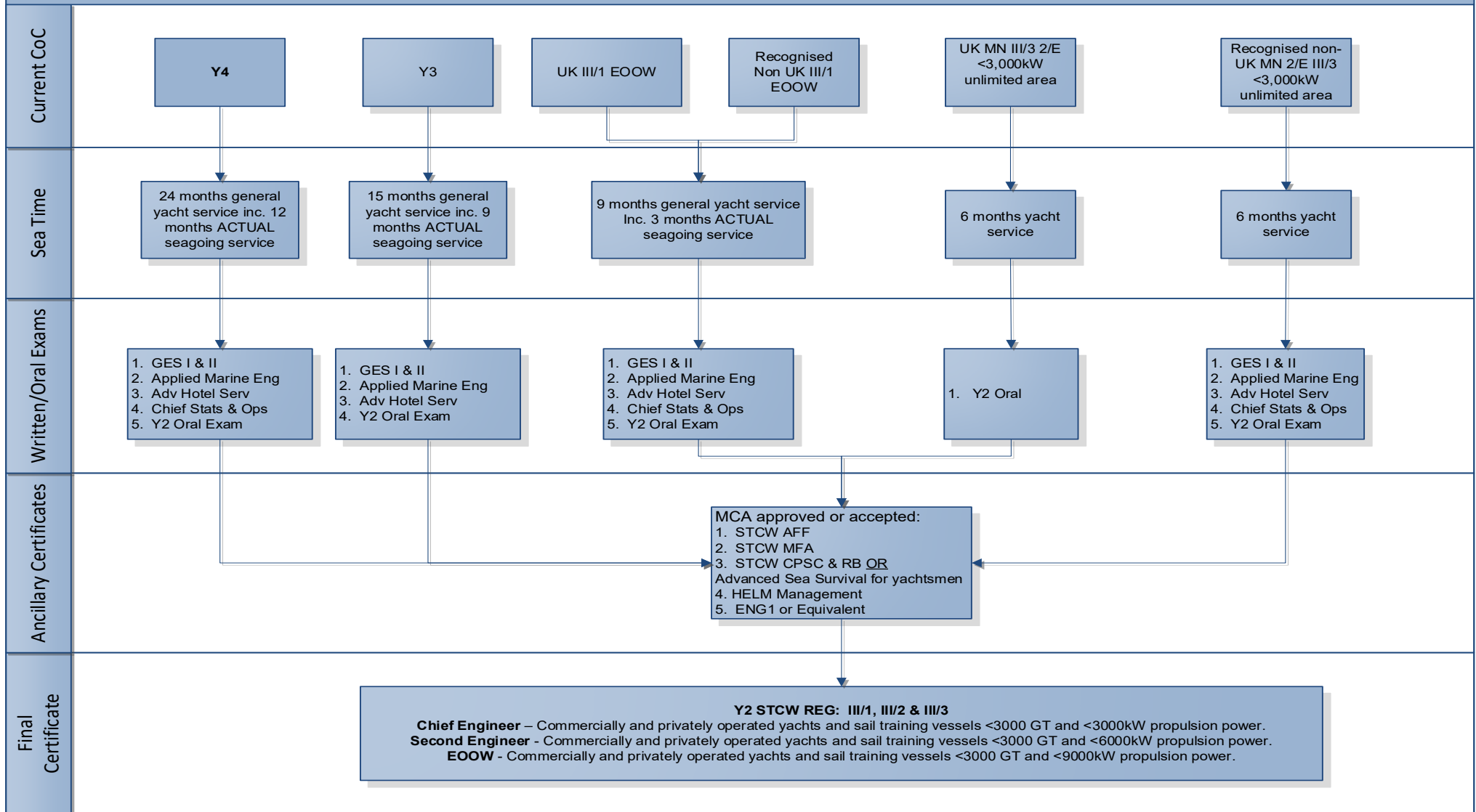
Annex A. iii

Please note this flowchart is designed as a summary, you must refer to section 3.5 of this MSN or Annex E for conversions.



III/1, III/2 & III/3 Yacht 2 – Commercially and Privately Operated Yachts and Sail Training Vessels <3000 GT and <3000kW **Annex A. iv**

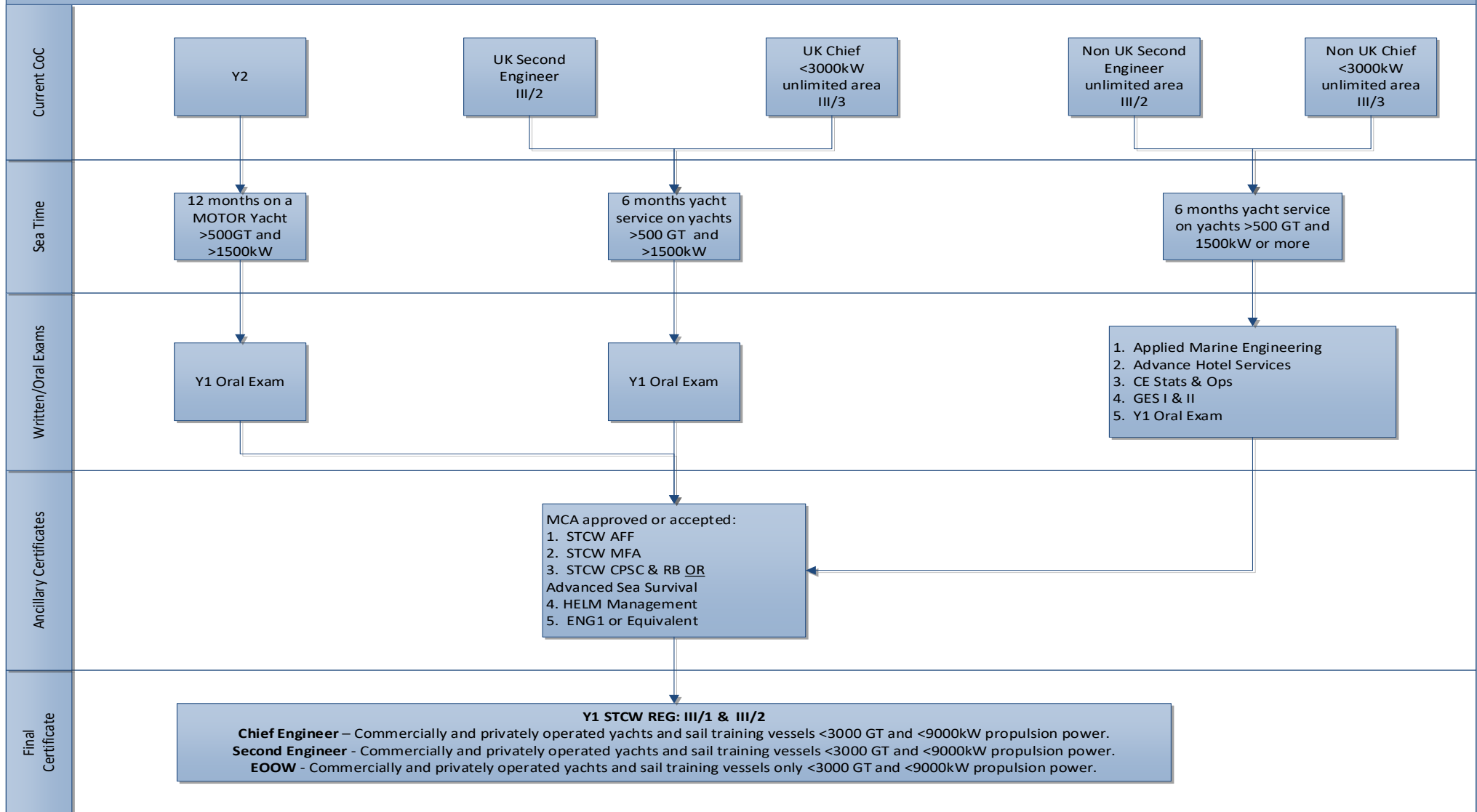
Please note this flowchart is designed as a summary, you must refer to section 3.6 of this MSN or Annex E for conversions.



III/1, III/2 Yacht 1 – Commercially and Privately Operated Yachts and Sail Training Vessels <3000 GT and <9000kW

Annex A. v

Please note this flowchart is designed as a summary, you must refer to section 3.7 of this MSN or Annex E for conversions.



Engine Testimonial for Commercially and Privately Operated Yachts and Sail Training Vessels

Company Name:

Company Address/Contact Details:

Company Address:		
Contact Details:	Tel:	
	E-mail:	

This is to certify that in capacity of Chief Engineer/ Second Engineer/ EOW/ Rating/ Assistant*:	
Full name:	
Date of Birth:	
Discharge Book/ Passport number:	

has served on:

Name of vessel:		IMO number:	
Type of vessel:		Official number:	
Engine power kW:		Gross Tonnage:	
		Load Line Length:	
Date of joining:		Date of discharge:	

Areas Cruised:	
----------------	--

The above service includes:

Actual seagoing service of days[†]
 Yard service of days[†]

Please record the actual watchkeeping/ UMS time undertaken on this voyage:

During the actual seagoing service the officer was in full charge of an engineering watch or performing UMS duties for not less than 4 out of every 24 hours while the vessel was engaged on voyage giving:

Days

[†] Complete as appropriate or if no time write NIL.

*Delete as appropriate.



Leave of absence was granted as follows ⁺ :	
Duties and tasks carried out were:	

My report on the service of the officer/ assistant/ rating, during the period stated, is as follows:

Conduct:	
Ability:	
General comments:	

PART 4 – OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT

Name of Chief Engineer or Master**:		
Position in company:		
CoC number:		
Issuing Administration:		
Email Address:		
Signature of Chief Engineer or Master**:		
Date:		

**** If you are the Chief Engineer onboard the yacht you must get the Master sign this testimonial. The MCA will not accept self-certificated seagoing service. In exceptional circumstances this testimonial may be signed by a responsible official of the company.**



**Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA)
YACHT CERTIFICATE OF DISCHARGE**

Surname (Block Capitals)	Other Names (In Full)
Passport or Discharge Book Number	Date and Place of Birth
Name of Yacht	Port of Registry
Official or IMO Number	Gross Tonnage
kW power of the Engine	Load Line length
Capacity	Grade and Number of any CoC
Date and Place of Joining	Date and Place of Leaving
Description of Voyage	Total Time Onboard
	Days of Leave/Leave of Absence
	Total Days at Sea

Signature of Master:

Name (Print):

Email Address:

CoC No.:

Issuing administration:

Yacht/ Company stamp:

Date of issue/...../.....



Approval of Small Vessel Training Providers

All training, assessment and examinations must be taken at an MCA approved training establishment. Details of which providers are approved by the MCA to deliver training modules and short course training programmes are available from the Seafarer Services Branch.

In accordance with regulation 48 of the 2022 Regulations, all training providers planning to offer education and training leading to the issue of a Certificate of Competency will need to obtain MCA approval.

Approval Process

To gain approval to provide a course for certification under the 2022 Regulations, training providers will have to undergo assessment by the MCA to ensure their training standards and course content meet the requirements of the STCW Convention. Training providers wishing to obtain approval must make a written application to the MCA outlining:

- Course title;
- Instructions for creating lesson plans/ schemes of work;
- Course duration;
- Facilities, teaching aids and equipment;
- Staff qualifications and experience;
- Examination and assessment procedures;
- Monitoring of entry requirements;
- Issue, control, authentication and recording of certification; and
- Quality management systems and procedures that ensures the educational requirements of 8 of this notice.

Instructors and assessors are required to be qualified in accordance with the requirements of section A-I/6 of the STCW Code (regulation 48(2) in the 2022 regulations).

Training Providers must develop an education and training programme that incorporates the requirement for delivering the underpinning knowledge and training required for STCW Engineer officers.

Approval

When the MCA is satisfied that the education and training programme meets the requirements of this Notice, an approval letter will be issued by the MCA.

Ongoing Monitoring

Training Providers: In accordance with regulation 48(12) of the 2022 Regulations, all Training Providers that offer education and training leading to the issue of a CoC will be periodically audited by the MCA in accordance with the following requirements:

- Course title;
- Guidance for creating lesson plans/ schemes of work;
- Course duration;
- Facilities, teaching aids and equipment;
- Staff qualifications and experience;



- Examination and assessment procedures;
- Where the completion of MCA safety and professional exams are not required, equivalent levels of robust assessment are in place to satisfy the requirements of the STCW Convention and Code;
- Monitoring of entry requirements;
- Issue, control, authentication and recording of certification; and
- Quality management systems and procedures that ensure the educational requirements of 8 of this notice.

If there are any non-conformities found, the MCA may:

- Assess the non-conformities, including requesting evidence such as photographs, updates to desk instructions, new staff CV etc. Where the MCA requests such evidence a deadline should be agreed for the training provider to provide the evidence requested and that deadline should be recorded on the report.
- Request a follow up onsite visit to ensure the nautical college has satisfactorily remedied any non-conformities.
- Alternatively, if satisfied that the non-conformities have been resolved, confirm there is compliance without a further visit.

The MCA will always work with approved Training and Education Providers whose qualifications lead to an MCA CoC to ensure standards are maintained. However, if the MCA identifies major non-conformities the course approval may be altered (which includes suspension) or cancelled (regulation 48(6) of the 2022 Regulations). If a training provider's approval were cancelled pursuant to regulation 48(6) of the 2022 Regulations, an appeal may be lodged against the decision within 21 days of that decision (pursuant to regulation 50(1) of the 2022 Regulations). Major non-conformities are summarised below (but this is not an exhaustive list):

- Failure of management to implement a QMS system to ensure the required STCW standards set out in the 2022 Regulations and this Notice are met prior to the issue of documentary evidence of a standard being met (critical for an STCW CoC);
- Teaching of the wrong practices or delivery of incorrect assessments that could endanger the seafarer while training or working at sea; or
- Fraudulent or illegal activity.

Any changes to course structure or syllabus must be submitted in writing to the MCA.

The introduction of any new course that is developed by an MCA approved training provider leading to the issue of a Certificate of Competency or Certificate of Proficiency must be approved by the MCA.

The MCA will inform training providers of any changes to STCW requirements that will affect the education and training syllabus. When notified, training providers must provide details in writing of how they plan to incorporate such changes into their programmes. Once the MCA is satisfied that the new STCW regulatory requirements have been met, the existing approval will be amended to reflect that the training provider has successfully incorporated the change into the programme. Prior to the amended approval being granted the MCA may carry out a site visit.

All MCA approved 'Small Vessel Training Providers' will need to be able to offer an MCA Small Vessel Competency Examinations: The exams syllabus is set by the MCA and the exams are moderated by the MCA to ensure compliance with STCW requirements. There is currently a contractual arrangement between the MCA and a service provider to administer and monitor these exams.

All training providers wishing to offer Small Vessel Training must also apply to be an MCA approved examination centre. The MCA will follow an internal procedure to ensure an exams



centres is suitable, prior to deciding on an approval. This procedure is available on request. If the MCA agrees to an exam centre being approved for MCA professional exams, then the exam centre can then apply to the MCA contracted 'exams body', who will provide them with the terms and condition for approval and ongoing monitoring.

The contracted service provider for MCA professional examinations must be separate or demonstrate independence from the training provider offering the underpinning knowledge set out in this section of the Notice. The MCA may cancel or suspend approval if exam irregularities are deemed as major non-conformities (which decision may be appealed pursuant to regulation 50(1) of the 2022 Regulations).



Conversions from a UK Certificate of Competency (CoC) or a non-UK CoC

UK Certificate Held	CoC required	Conversion
EOOW Unlimited, III/1, CoC	Y3	A
EOOW Unlimited, III/1, CoC	Y2	B
Second Engineer, less than 3000 kW unlimited area, III/3, CoC	Y2	C
Chief Engineer, less than 3000 kW unlimited area, III/2, CoC	Y1	D
Second Engineer unlimited, III/2, CoC	Y1	E
EOOW Unlimited, III/1, non-UK STCW CoC	Y3	F
EOOW Unlimited, III/1 CEC and Second Engineer, less than 3000 kW, unlimited area, III/2, non-UK STCW CoC	Y2	G
Second Engineer unlimited, III/2, non-UK STCW CoC	Y1	H

Conversion A

To convert from an Engineer Officer of the Watch (EOOW) unlimited, III/1, CoC to a Y3 CoC, you must:

- (a) Complete 3 months' service on yachts of 350 kW or more in propulsion power, with at least 1 month actual seagoing service;
- (b) Successfully complete the MCA-approved modules and pass the corresponding MCA professional examinations for:
 - Chief Engineer Statutory and Operational Requirements;
- (c) Apart from HELM (O), hold the applicable ancillary technical and safety course certificates listed in section 6;
- (d) Hold a valid ENG1 (medical fitness certificate) or accepted equivalent;
- (e) Pass the MCA 'Y3' oral examination.³¹

Conversion B

To convert from an Engineer Officer of the Watch (EOOW) unlimited, III/1, CoC to a 'Y2' CoC, you must:

³¹ For the MCA's published Oral Examination Syllabi, please refer to the following page and navigate to the section titled 'Oral Exam Syllabuses': www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-seafarer-careers-training-provision-and-information.



- (a) Complete 9 months' service on yachts of 350 kW or more in propulsion power, with at least 3 months' actual seagoing service;
- (b) Successfully complete the MCA-approved modules and pass the corresponding MCA professional examinations for:
 - General Engineering Science I & II;
 - Applied Marine Engineering;
 - Chief Engineer Statutory and Operational Requirements;
 - Advanced Hotel Services;
- (c) Hold the applicable ancillary technical and safety course certificates listed in section 6;
- (d) Hold a valid ENG1 (medical fitness certificate) or accepted equivalent;
- (e) Pass the MCA 'Y2' oral examination.³²

Conversion C

To convert from a Second Engineer, less than 3000 kW unlimited area, III/3, CoC to a 'Y2' CoC, you must:

- (a) Complete 6 months' service as a yacht engineer on yachts of 350 kW or more in propulsion power;
- (b) Hold the applicable ancillary technical and safety technical listed in section 6;
- (c) Hold a valid ENG1 (medical fitness certificate) or accepted equivalent;
- (d) Pass the MCA 'Y2' oral examination.³³

Conversion D

To convert from a Chief Engineer less than 3000 kW, unlimited area, III/2, CoC to a 'Y1' CoC, you must:

- (a) Complete 6 months' service as a yacht engineer on yachts of 1500 kW or more in propulsion power and at least 500 GT;
- (b) Hold the applicable ancillary technical and safety technical listed in section 6;
- (c) Hold a valid ENG1 (medical fitness certificate) or accepted equivalent;
- (d) Pass the MCA 'Y1' oral examination.³⁴

Conversion E

To convert from a Second Engineer unlimited, III/2, CoC to a 'Y1' CoC, you must:

- (a) Complete 6 months' service as a yacht engineer on yachts of 1500 kW or more in propulsion power and at least 500 GT;
- (b) Hold the applicable ancillary technical and safety course certificates listed in section 6;
- (c) Hold a valid ENG1 (medical fitness certificate) or accepted equivalent;
- (d) Pass the MCA 'Y1' oral examination.³⁵

³² For the MCA's published Oral Examination Syllabi, please refer to the following page and navigate to the section titled 'Oral Exam Syllabuses': www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-seafarer-careers-training-provision-and-information.

³³ For the MCA's published Oral Examination Syllabi, please refer to the following page and navigate to the section titled 'Oral Exam Syllabuses': www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-seafarer-careers-training-provision-and-information.

³⁴ For the MCA's published Oral Examination Syllabi, please refer to the following page and navigate to the section titled 'Oral Exam Syllabuses': www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-seafarer-careers-training-provision-and-information.

³⁵ For the MCA's published Oral Examination Syllabi, please refer to the following page and navigate to the section titled 'Oral Exam Syllabuses': www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-seafarer-careers-training-provision-and-information.



Conversions from a non- UK Certificate of Competency

Conversion F

To convert from a non-UK STCW Engineer Officer of the Watch (EOOW) unlimited, III/1, CoC to a 'Y3' CoC, you must:

- (a) Complete 3 months' service as a yacht engineer on yachts of 350 kW or more in propulsion power, with at least 1 months' actual seagoing service;
- (b) Successfully complete the MCA-approved modules and pass the corresponding MCA professional examinations for:
 - Marine Diesel Engineering;
 - Auxiliary Equipment;
 - Operational Procedures, Basic Hotel Services and Ship Construction;
 - Chief Engineer Statutory and Operational Requirements;
- (c) Hold the applicable ancillary technical and safety course certificates listed in section 6;
- (d) Hold a valid ENG1 (medical fitness certificate) or accepted equivalent;
- (e) Pass the MCA 'Y3' oral examination.³⁶

Conversion G

To convert from a non-UK STCW Engineer Officer of the Watch (EOOW) unlimited, III/1 or Second Engineer, less than 3000 kW unlimited area, III/3, CoC to a 'Y2' CoC, you must:

- (a) Complete either:
 - 9 months' service as a yacht engineer on yachts of 350 kW or more in propulsion power, while holding an Engineer Officer of the Watch (EOOW) unlimited, III/1, CoC, which includes at least 3 months' actual seagoing service, or
 - 6 months' service as a yacht engineer on yachts of 350 kW or more in propulsion power, while holding a Second Engineer, less than 3000 kW unlimited area, III/3, CoC which includes at least 2 months' actual seagoing service;
- (b) Successfully complete the MCA-approved modules and pass the corresponding MCA professional examinations for:
 - General Engineering Science I & II;
 - Applied Marine Engineering;
 - Chief Engineer Statutory and Operational Requirements;
 - Advanced Hotel Services;
- (c) Hold a HELM Management level certificate given by an MCA training provider;
- (d) Hold the applicable ancillary technical and safety certificates listed in section 6;
- (e) Hold a valid ENG1 (medical fitness certificate) or accepted equivalent;
- (f) Pass the MCA 'Y2' oral examination.³⁷

³⁶ For the MCA's published Oral Examination Syllabi, please refer to the following page and navigate to the section titled 'Oral Exam Syllabuses': www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-seafarer-careers-training-provision-and-information.

³⁷ For the MCA's published Oral Examination Syllabi, please refer to the following page and navigate to the section titled 'Oral Exam Syllabuses': www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-seafarer-careers-training-provision-and-information.



Conversion H

To convert from a non-UK STCW Second Engineer unlimited, III/2 or non-UK STCW Chief Engineer less than 3000 GT, unlimited area, III/2 CoC to a 'Y1' CoC, you must:

- (a) Complete 6 months' service as a yacht engineer on yachts of 1500 kW or more in propulsion power and at least 500 GT;
- (b) Successfully complete the MCA-approved modules and pass the corresponding MCA professional examinations for:
 - General Engineering Science I & II;
 - Applied Marine Engineering;
 - Chief Engineer Statutory and Operational Requirements;
 - Advanced Hotel Services;
- (c) Hold a HELM Management level certificate given by an MCA approved training provider;
- (d) Hold the applicable ancillary technical and safety course certificates listed in section 6;
- (e) Hold a valid ENG1 (medical fitness certificate) or accepted equivalent;
- (f) Pass the MCA 'Y1' oral examination.³⁸

³⁸ For the MCA's published Oral Examination Syllabi, please refer to the following page and navigate to the section titled 'Oral Exam Syllabuses': www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-seafarer-careers-training-provision-and-information.

