



Gibraltar Maritime Administration

HM Government of Gibraltar

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Shipping Information Notice – 089 Electronic STCW Seafarer Endorsements

To: Ship Owners, Operators, Master's, Certifying Authorities, and Recognised Organisations

** This Shipping Information Notice (SIN) must be available to seafarers serving on Gibraltar registered ships whom have been issued with electronic STCW Certificates of Equivalent Competency.*

References:

- FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2;
- The International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, as amended;
- Seafarer's Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW) Code.

1. Introduction

As part of our continued commitment to client product developments, Gibraltar Maritime Administration will be making the transition to electronic STCW certification on the **04 April 2022**. The electronic certificates will be fully compliant with the applicable requirements as set out in the FAL Convention for the use of electronic certificates (FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2 as amended).

The transition to electronic certification will provide our client base with the following benefits:

- a) Speed of dispatch of certificates – Electronic certificates can be on board a vessel or at an office practically as soon as issued;
- b) Cost – Electronic certificates will provide greater cost efficiency in relation to the reduction of transport costs associated with traditional hard-copy certificates;
- c) Security – Authenticity and validity of electronic certificates can be obtained by any authority via a dedicated online portal using two means of verification embedded within the certificate;
- d) Greater sustainably and benefits to the environment reduction of paper use, reduced packaging, and transportation carbon footprint;
- e) Electronic certificates incorporate digital signatures.

2. Requirements to hold a Gibraltar endorsement

The Gibraltar Ship Registry does not issue Certificates of Competency (CoCs), but the Ship Registry is required to issue an endorsement recognising other national CoCs. Endorsements are required for all officers sailing on Gibraltar registered vessels unless they hold a CoC issued by the United Kingdom.

Officers serving on Gibraltar registered vessels may be of any nationality or residency provided they hold a CoC issued by one of the [countries recognised by the Gibraltar Maritime Administration](#).

If a seafarer holds a United Kingdom issued Certificate of Equivalent Competency (CEC), they are not required to apply for a Gibraltar endorsement.

The Ship Registry does not normally accept applications direct from individual seafarers; applications should be made through the owner/operator or one of their manning agents.

3. Online Application Process – Seafarer HQ cloud based system

Using assigned login credentials, the applicant via https://Gibraltar.seafarershq.com/sign_in may by following the on-screen requirements, and upon upload/submission of required underlying documentation obtain the necessary Gibraltar STCW Endorsement.

First time users will require account/login credentials, this may be obtained upon email application to maritime.seafarers@gibraltar.gov.gi

The following details should be included in the emailed request:

- Name
- Email address
- Username preference
- Invoicing details

4. Form of Endorsement

As from **04 April 2022** Endorsements will be issued in electronic format (*please see Appendix 1 for an example of the electronic format*).

Existing STCW endorsements will remain valid until their expiry date.

5. Verification of authenticity and validity

Verification of the authenticity and validity of an electronic certificate may be undertaken via the following means:

- a) Via scanning of the embedded QR Code with an electronic device having internet capability, or;
- b) Via the use of the certificate's Unique Tracking Number (UTN) upon accessing the dedicated verification portal; <https://portal.gibraltarship.com/>

Both of the above means will provide the user with confirmation of the certificate's authenticity and validity upon submission of site requested data variables.

6. Fees and Charges

Applicable fees will be associated with the issuance of an electronic STCW endorsement.

Operators may request the exchange of existing hard-copy STCW endorsements for electronic versions upon email request to maritime.seafarers@gibraltar.gov.gi.

Appendix 1 – Example of electronic STCW endorsement



ENDORSEMENT ATTESTING THE RECOGNITION OF A CERTIFICATE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING FOR SEAFARERS, 1978, (AS AMENDED).

QR Code



HM Government of Gibraltar certifies that certificate number **CERTIFICATE_NUMBER** issued to:

SEAFARER_NAME

by or on behalf of the Government of **COUNTRY_NAME** is duly recognised in accordance with the provisions of regulation 1/10 of the above Convention, as amended and the lawful holder is authorised to perform the following functions, at the levels specified, subject to any limitations indicated until **dd/mm/yyyy**.

| Function | Level | Limitations applying (if any) |
|---|-------|-------------------------------|
| Navigation | | |
| Cargo handling and stowage | | |
| Controlling the operation of the ship and care for persons on board | | |
| Radiocommunications | | |

The lawful holder of this endorsement may serve in the following capacity or capacities specified in the applicable safe manning requirements of Gibraltar Maritime Administration.

| Capacity | Limitations applying (if any) |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Master | |

HM Government of Gibraltar additionally certifies that the endorsements for service in tankers in accordance with STCW Regulations V/1-1 and/or V/1-2 issued by the Government(s) of **COUNTRY_NAMES** are recognised for service in **TANKER_TYPES** tankers.

Issued at **Gibraltar** on **dd/mm/yyyy**. This document expires on **dd/mm/yyyy**.

Verification portal link



Signature of certificate holder

Date of birth of holder: **dd/mm/yyyy**

This document is signed electronically in accordance with IMO FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2. Validation and authentication can be obtained from portal.gibraltarship.com by using the Unique Tracking Number (UTN): and associated data from this document.

STAFF_NAME

For and on behalf of the Maritime Administrator



This Certificate is issued by or on behalf of Gibraltar under the responsibility of the United Kingdom as flag-state under the Convention. Gibraltar is an overseas territory of the United Kingdom.

The original of this endorsement must be kept available in accordance with regulation I/2, paragraph 11 of the Convention while the holder is serving on a ship.

UTN (Unique Tracking Number)

UTN_NUMBER