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Marine Circular (2 / 2014)

Subject: Certification for Electronic Charts Display and Information Systems (ECDIS) Training

To: Myanmar Maritime University, Myanmar Mercantile Marine College, MFSL, All Maritime Training Center, MSF's and MYANSEA.

1. In accordance with the Manila amendments to the STCW Convention and Code, every deck officer standing a navigation watch on an ECDIS equipped vessel must be certified as competent in the use of ECDIS to maintain the safety of navigation. Every Master and Chief Mate (First Officer) standing a navigation watch on an ECDIS equipped vessel must be certified as competent to maintain the safety of navigation through the use of ECDIS and associated navigation systems to assist command decision making.

2. Furthermore, the use of ECDIS is not required for those who serve exclusively on vessels not fitted with ECDIS ; these limitations shall be reflected in the endorsements to the seafarer's CoC **“as not valid for use on ships fitted with ECDIS”**.

3. Deck Officers whose certification was issued before August 2012 will need to undertake upgrading ECDIS course (2012 Edition) that meets DMA requirements.

4. To operate type Approved ECDIS, navigation officers are required to complete 2 levels of training:

4.1 Generic simulator training

4.1.1 Knowledge of the capability and limitations of ECDIS operations including a thorough understanding of electronic navigational chart data, data accuracy, presentation rules, display options and other chart data formats as well as the dangers of over-reliance; and

4.1.2 Proficiency in operation, interpretation and analysis of information obtained from ECDIS including the use of functions that are integrated with other navigation systems, safe monitoring and adjustment of information, confirmation of vessel position by alternative means, efficient use of settings to ensure conformance to operational procedures, adjustment of settings and values to suit the present conditions and situational awareness while using ECDIS.

4.2 Type Specific Training

4.2.1 This training is to be completed prior to an officer assuming a navigational watch and is intended to familiarize the watch officer with the basic operation of the ECDIS equipment aboard the vessel to which they are assigned, including route planning and execution.

4.2.2 Type-specific ECDIS training has to be offered by the ECDIS equipment manufacturer (or approved sub-contractor) or a trainer who has attended approved training programme.

5. The ship owner and operator shall ensure that documentary evidence of the training which has been completed is issued for every person found qualified under the provisions of this regulation and is available for review by proper authorities and ISM Code auditors.

For Director General,
Htay Win
Deputy Director General
Department of Marine Administration