



TECHNICAL ALERT No. 16-21

Implementation of the 2010 amendments to the STCW : End of period for transitional provisions

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This Technical Alert draws all parties' attention to the end of the transitional period for the 2010 amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watch-keeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended (STCW).
- 1.2. All parties employing or intending to employ seafarers who require updated training and or certification in accordance with the STCW 2010 amendments should be guided by this information to avoid any delays to the ship.

2. General

- 2.1. The 2010 amendments to the STCW Convention introduced a number of revised and new training and certification requirements affecting a large number of seafarers. **The transitional period for the 2010 amendments comes to an end on 31 December 2016.**
- 2.2. All affected seafarers, and Companies employing such seafarers, should liaise with the Maritime Administration which issued their national certificate in order to obtain advice and guidance on the process and requirements to issue or revalidate a STCW certificate for compliance with the STCW 2010 amendments.
- 2.3. The BMA is aware that the STCW 2010 amendments may affect a large number of seafarers, who may be required to apply for STCW 2010 amendment certificates prior to the end of the transitional period. Accordingly and in order to avoid any delays, it is strongly recommended that seafarers, and Companies employing these seafarers, seek guidance from the relevant Maritime Administration(s) in a timely manner to determine whether the seafarer has to apply for certificate(s) that comply with the STCW 2010 amendments and if so, the requirements for application.

- 2.4. All parties should note that the BMA can only provide guidance on the training and revalidation requirements for certificates that have been issued by the BMA. All parties should further note that a Bahamas Flag State Endorsement (FSE) is only valid subject to the relevant national Certificate being valid.
- 2.5. Companies should note that if the vessel's Minimum Safe Manning Document includes a requirement to carry an Electro-Technical Officer (STCW III/6), Electro-Technical Rating (STCW III/7), Able Seafarer Deck (STCW II/5) or Able Seafarer Engine (STCW III/5), these seafarers must have appropriate STCW certificates, and in the case of the Electro-Technical Officer a Bahamas FSE, **by 31 December 2016.**

3. Validity

- 3.1. This alert is valid until 31 December 2016.

4. Revision History

Rev.0 (18 May 2016) – First issue