



Technical Circular

No.: 011/2022

Date: 21st February 2022

Subject: GOI – DGS Order No. 08 of 2022 Reg. Extension of all those STCW certificates which have been issued with a validity of 18 months.

1. Indian Administration vide DGS Order No. 08 of 2022 has informed that the STCW certificates issued with a validity of 18 months, after completing the 3- Tier programme, but without undergoing practical training at MTI have been extended under the following terms and conditions:
 - a. **Case 1:** Seafarers who have completed six (6) months sea-service within the validity of 18 months STCW certificate, their certificate stands **extended by 12 months** from date of expiry.
 - b. **Case 2:** Seafarers who are currently on board as on 15 February 2022 (date of issue of DGS Order No. 8 of 2022), their 18 months validity certificates stands **extended till sign-off or 12 months** whichever is earlier.
 - c. **Case 3:** Seafarers who are now ashore and intend to join ship on or before 28th February 2022, their 18 months valid certificate stands **extended till sign-off or 12 months** whichever is earlier.
 - d. **Case 4:** Seafarers who are now ashore, whose 18 months valid certificate have expired or are going to expire, but intend to join on board ship on or after 1st March 2022, their 18 months valid certificate stands **extended by 12 months** from the date of expiry provided these seafarers complete the DGS e-learning course (Tier-I) at no additional cost for obtaining such extension.
2. Seafarers and the shipping companies, including Recruitment and placement Service providers are required to ensure that the concerned seafarers have a print-out of their sea service record and applicable Tier-I course completion record (if any) from the seafarers Master checker profile. Further, the shipping companies need to demonstrate their responsibilities as required under Regulation I/1 and section A-I/14 of the STCW on "Responsibilities of Companies".
3. The above extensions granted vide DGS Order No. 08 of 2022 is only applicable for all those seafarers who have obtained 18 months valid STCW certificates after going through the 3-Tier programme and is not applicable for seafarers who have obtained certificates with validity of five (5) years. These seafarers for revalidating their certificates need to undergo the refresher courses as per the existing DGS procedures.

4. Owners/ operators and masters of Indian flagged vessels are advised to be guided by above.

Enclosure:

1. DGS Order No. 08 of 2022.

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F. No. 20-16/4/2020-O/o TRG - DGS

Date: 15.02.2022

DGS Order No. 08 of 2022

Subject: Extension of all those STCW certificates which have been issued with a validity of 18 months' – reg.

1. Recalling para 8 of DGS Order 20 of 2020 dated 03/08/2020, wherein this Directorate has proactively taken pragmatic approach to re-validate STCW related certificates by way of 3-Tier approach during the COVID pandemic restrictions.
2. Whereas in the said 3-Tier approach, certificates were restricted to 18 months' validity from date of issue for STCW courses listed in Annex I (pending completion of practical training).
3. Whereas in subsequent orders, Directorate General of Shipping (DGS) has permitted Maritime Training Institutes (MTIs) to resume practical training in phased manner as and when the restriction was eased up. On completion of such practical training STCW certificates have been extended for a period of 5 years from the date of issuance of 18 months' certificate.
4. Whereas, the DGS has received representations from various stakeholders requesting to address the difficulties of all those seafarers whose 18 months' valid certificates are expiring in coming months as ~~the~~ during ^{the} current wave of Covid-19 pandemic some seafarers have not been able to complete the requisite practical training to obtain 5 years' valid certificate.
5. Having considered the requests made by the stakeholders, the Directorate has now decided to extend the STCW certificates issued with a validity of 18 months, after completing the 3-Tier programme, but without undergoing practical training at MTI under the following terms and conditions:

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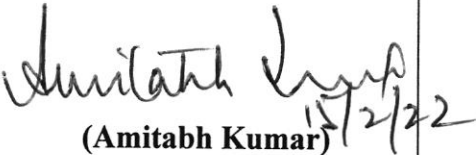
Case 1: Seafarers who have completed six (6) months' sea-service within the validity of 18 months STCW certificate their certificate stands *extended by 12 months* from date of expiry.

Case 2: Seafarers who are currently on board as on date of issue of this circular their 18 months' validity certificates stands *extended till sign-off or 12 months* whichever is earlier.

Case 3: Seafarers who are now ashore and intend to join ship on or before 28th Feb'2022 their 18 months' valid certificate stands *extended till sign-off or 12 months* whichever is earlier.

Case 4: Seafarers who are now ashore, whose 18 months' valid certificate have expired or are going to expire, but intend to join on board ship on or after 1st March 2022, their 18 months' valid certificate stands *extended by 12 months* from the date of expiry provided these seafarers complete the DGS e-learning course (Tier-I) at no additional cost for obtaining such extension.

6. Seafarers and the shipping companies, including Recruitment and Placement Service providers are required to ensure that the seafarers concerned should have a print-out of their sea service record and applicable Tier-I course completion record (if any) from the seafarers Master Checker profile. Further, the shipping companies need to demonstrate their responsibilities as required under Regulation I/1 and Section A-I/14 of the STCW on "Responsibilities of Companies".
7. This circular is only applicable for all those seafarers who have obtained 18 months valid STCW certificates after going through the 3-Tier programme. This circular is not applicable for seafarers who have obtained certificates with validity of five (5) years, these seafarers for revalidating their certificates need to undergo the refresher courses as per the existing procedures.


(Amitabh Kumar) 15/2/22

Director General of Shipping

Annex I

List of courses which were done without any practical were restricted to 18 months' validity from date of issue -

- 1) *Basic Safety Course,*
- 2) *Personal Survival Techniques,*
- 3) *Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting,*
- 4) *Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats other than fast rescue boats, Proficiency in fast rescue boats,*
- 5) *Advanced Fire Fighting,*
- 6) *Medical First Aid,*
- 7) *Medical Care,*
- 8) *Refresher in Personal Survival Techniques,*
- 9) *Refresher in Proficiency in Survival Craft and rescue boats other than fast rescue boats,*
- 10) *Refresher in Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting,*
- 11) *Refresher in Advanced Fire Fighting,*
- 12) *Refresher in Proficiency in fast rescue boats,*
- 13) *Refresher and updating course in Medical First aid,*
- 14) *Refresher & updating course in Medical care*
