

*Notice to Shipowners, Ship Operators and Managers,
Owners' representatives and Masters, and Officers*

MSD Notice 43

RECOGNITION OF NON MALTA CERIFICATES OF COMPETENCE FOR SERVICE ON MALTESE SHIPS

This notice complements regulation 8 of

The Merchant Shipping (Training and Certification) Regulations, 2001

1. The 1995 amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping 1978, require that, by 1 February 2002, all officers serving on board ships going to sea and holding certificates of competence not issued by the flag Administration shall hold an endorsement attesting recognition by that Administration of their certificate of competence. The validity of an endorsement certificate is closely linked to the validity of the certificate of competence both of which have to be revalidated every five years by the respective issuing administration. The endorsement certificate together with the relevant certificate of competence must be carried on board at all times. The Merchant Shipping (Training and Certification) Regulations, 2001 provide for the issue, under certain conditions, of endorsements attesting the recognition of non Malta certificates of competence.
2. Applications for endorsement certificates for officers serving on Maltese ships shall be submitted to the Merchant Shipping Directorate on the appropriate form (vide specimen attached) either by the seafarer or by the company employing the seafarer. Applications shall

be accompanied by such documents as may be prescribed on the application form; these include:

- Copy of Passport or Seaman's Record Book or official Identity Card
- Passport size colour photograph (name of applicant written on the reverse side)
- Copy of certificate of competence and endorsement attesting
- the issue of the certificate (certificate of endorsement may be incorporated in the certificate of competence)
- copy of Medical Fitness Certificate issued in accordance with ILO Convention No. 73 and STCW 78 as amended
- if a chemical, gas or oil tanker endorsement is required: copy of the familiarisation course completion certificate, and copy of the chemical, gas or oil tanker training certificates as the case may be.
- if GMDSS endorsement is required, copy of the GMDSS certificate
- appropriate fee, LM 22 (approx. LM = US\$ 2.2)
- if secure delivery by courier is required, additional LM 10.

3. Photocopies of certificates and endorsements attesting their issue may not be accepted unless certified by the issuing authority, or a Maltese consular officer or a practicing lawyer or notary public as true copy of the original. The Directorate retains the right to sight the originals.

4. All applications should be sent either by registered mail or by courier, or through the shipowner's local representative addressed to :

Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen
Merchant Shipping Directorate
Malta Maritime Authority
Maritime House, Lascaris Wharf
Valletta VLT 01,

Malta Requests for submission of applications at a Maltese Embassy or a Maltese Consulate may be entertained on a case by case basis.

5. An officer may be accepted to serve on board Maltese ships without an endorsement certificate for a maximum period of three months, provided that the initial application has been submitted to the Directorate. An acknowledgment note confirming receipt of the completed application shall serve as proof of having applied for an endorsement. This note, however, shall not replace the endorsement certificate issued by the Directorate.

Merchant Shipping Directorate
Valletta

31 August 2001