



TUVALU SHIP REGISTRY

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MARINE CIRCULAR

MC-3/2015/1

8/2018

FOR: Ship Owners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Ship Masters, Ship Officers, Classification Societies

SUBJECT: ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATES OF ENDORSEMENT

DEFINITIONS:

The following abbreviations stand for:

- “COC” – Certificate of Competency in accordance to the STCW
- “COE” – Certificate of Endorsement (issued against an officer’s COC / GOC / DCE / SSO)
- “DCE” – Dangerous Cargo Endorsement (e.g. Advance Oil/Chemical Tanker Certificate)
- “GOC” – GMDSS Operator Certificate
- “PSC” – Port State Control
- “PSCO” – Port State Control Officer
- “SSO” – Ship Security Officer Certificate
- “STCW” – International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended

The following terms shall mean:

- “Administration” shall mean the Tuvalu Ship Registry.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this marine circular is to inform all ship owners / operators / managers / PSCOs / Masters / Officers of the launch of Electronic Provisional COE (which came into effect from 01 August 2015) and Electronic Permanent COE (which came into effect from 01 January 2018).

REFERENCES:

- (a) Tuvalu Registry Circular RC-5/2012/1 - Crew Endorsement Application Procedures
- (b) Tuvalu Marine Circular MC-1/2009/10/12/3 – Failure to Apply for Tuvalu Crew Endorsements in Accordance to STCW Reg I/10
- (c) IMO Circular FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2 – Guidelines for the use of Electronic Certificates

APPLICATION:

This Marine Circular applies to all ship officers and radio operators issued with COC / DCE / GOC / SSO by other STCW member States serving on board Tuvalu flagged vessels.

CONTENTS:

1. STCW Requirements

- 1.1. All officers including radio operators serving on board Tuvalu ships shall be required to have their COC / DCE / GOC / SSO endorsed by Tuvalu.

- 1.2. This Administration shall recognise the COC / DCE / GOC / SSO issued by a STCW member State through the issuance of a Tuvalu COE.
- 1.3. All officers and radio operators are to ensure that their original COC / DCE / GOC / SSO and accompanying COE are with them when they embark on board the vessel without fail.
- 1.4. All officers and radio operators shall to the best of their ability ensure that their COC / DCE / GOC / SSO and corresponding COE remain valid for the duration of their intended service on board a Tuvalu flagged vessel.

2. Electronic COEs

- 2.1. With greater acceptance of electronic certificates and documents worldwide, the Administration hereby adopts the use of fully electronic formats for Provisional & Permanent COEs. This implies that all COEs hereby issued by the Administration shall be in ELECTRONIC format only.
- 2.2. A copy of the Provisional and/or Permanent COE shall be printed and held by the seafarer together with his/her original COC / DCE / GOC / SSO.
- 2.3. Please refer to Registry Circular RC-5/2012/1 for the validity of Provisional and Permanent COEs.
- 2.4. A copy of this Marine Circular and Registry Circular RC-5/2012/1 shall be kept on board to be presented to PSCOs as evidence that the ELECTRONIC COEs issued by this Administration are valid and accepted by this Administration and may be verified at any time with the Administration either via e-service tool at: www.tvship.com/verify or by email to: crewing@tvship.com.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Registrar
Tuvalu Ship Registry