



TUVALU SHIP REGISTRY

Singapore Operations Office:

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MARINE CIRCULAR

MC-1/2009/10/12/3

7/2015

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

SUBJECT: FAILURE TO APPLY FOR TUVALU CREW ENDORSEMENTS IN ACCORDANCE TO STCW REG I/10

DEFINITIONS:

- "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:

This Marine Circular serves to inform ship owners / operators on the penalty imposed by the Administration for any PSC detentions that result directly or indirectly from the absence of valid Tuvalu COEs for officers serving onboard Tuvalu flagged vessels.

REFERENCES:

- (a) Tuvalu Registry Circular RC-5/2012/1 - Crew Endorsement Application Procedures
- (b) International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended

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:

This Administration believes that PSC detention caused by the lack of Tuvalu COEs is unacceptable and completely avoidable. As such, please be reminded of the following:

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.



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- 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.
 - 1.5. Due to the time required for the Administration to process and issue the original COE, the Administration shall issue an electronic Provisional COE (valid for 3 months) upon receipt of a COE application in order to allow an officer or radio operator to serve on board a Tuvalu flagged vessel while waiting for the issuance of the Tuvalu COE.
 - 1.6. A copy of the Provisional COE shall be printed and held by the seafarer together with his/her original COC / DCE / GOC / SSO.
 - 1.7. Please refer to RC-5/2012/1 for the procedures for application of Tuvalu COE.
2. Penalty Imposed on Failure to Comply with STCW I/10
- 2.1. Should a Tuvalu flagged vessel be detained by a PSC authority for failure to comply with STCW I/10 based on the instructions provided above, then the Administration may impose a penalty of no less than US\$ 5,000 on the ship owner / ship operator / ship manager responsible.
 - 2.2. This Administration believes that good management shall easily avoid any failure to comply with STCW I/10 and so long as the vessel has all the proper crew documentation on board, there shall be no need for ship owner / operators to be concerned of the penalty.

Yours sincerely

Deputy Registrar
Tuvalu Ship Registry