



**PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY**  
**MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-235**

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**To: Parties, Administrations, Port State Control Authorities, Recognized Organizations (RO's), Ship-owners/Operators, Seafarers, Legal Representatives of Panama-Flag Vessels, Authorized Maritime Training Centers, Privative Consulates of Merchant Marine, Inspectorates, Authorized Offices, Departments/Units/Areas of the GDS, Regional Documentation Offices of the Panama Maritime Authority.**

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**Subject: 2010 Manila Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (1978 STCW Convention, as amended).**

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**Reference: Circular No. DGGM-UCYC-016-2017 of July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

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1. This document has the aim of reiterating to the users of the Panama Maritime Authority, the **Circular No. DGGM-UCYC-053-2016** of December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016, whereby was informed that since January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, all seafarers must hold a certificate or endorsement which complies with the provisions of the 2010 Manila Amendments to the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended, and the STCW Code, and the non-compliance to these Amendments may represent detention of ships by the Port State Control.
2. Furthermore, by means of the Circular No. 024-2011-DGGM of December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011, it was communicated that this Maritime Administration, adopted the 2010 Manila Amendments to the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended, through the Resolution ADM No.148-2011 of November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010, and published in the Official Gazette No. No.26932-A of December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

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Control N°: F-RIN-04-01	Versión: 06	Date: August 1, 2016
		Page 1 of 3

3. Likewise, it should be noted that the Panama Maritime Authority, adopted through the Resolution J.D. No.087-2010 of November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010, the certificates for the new capacities in accordance with the provisions of the 2010 Manila to the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended:
  - 3.1. Electro-technical Officer. (Regulation III/6);
  - 3.2. Electro-technical Rating. (Regulation III/7);
  - 3.3. Able Seafarer Deck. (Regulation II/5); and
  - 3.4. Able Seafarer Engine. (Regulation III/5).
  
4. Moreover, it is informed that the International Maritime Organization, at its eighty-ninth (89) session of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC), has issued clarifications regarding the implementation of the 2010 Manila Amendments, under Circulars **STCW.7/Circ.16** and **STCW.7/Circ.17**. The most important clarifications are:
  - 4.1. For seafarers holding certificates issued in accordance with the provisions of the Convention which applied immediately prior to **1 January 2012** and who **have not met** the requirements of the 2010 Manila Amendments, the validity of any revalidated certificate should not extend beyond January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017;
  - 4.2. For seafarers holding certificates issued in accordance with the provisions of the Convention which applied immediately prior to **1 January 2012** who **have met** the requirements of the 2010 Manila Amendments, the validity of any revalidated certificate can extend beyond 1 January 2017;
  - 4.3. For seafarers who commenced approved seagoing service, an approved education and training programme or an approved training course **before 1 July 2013**, the validity of any certificate issued should not extend beyond 1 January 2017, unless they meet the requirements of the 2010 Manila Amendments; and
  - 4.4. For seafarers who commenced approved seagoing service, an approved education and training programme or an approved training course **after 1 July 2013** the validity of any certificate issued may extend beyond 1 January 2017.

5. Due to the above, and based on Regulation I/14 of the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended, the corporations are liable for the appointment of seafarers for service on their vessels in accordance with the provisions of such Convention, and in this sense all seafarers designated to undertake tasks, duties and responsibilities on a ship, in compliance with the standards of competences established in the Regulations II/5, III/5, III/6 y III/7, must hold an appropriate certificate.
  
6. We take this opportunity to reassure the Panama Maritime Administration interest and commitment to the maritime industry.
  
7. Circulars No. DGGM-UCYC-053-2016 of December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 and No. 024-2011-DGGM of December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011, are attached for reference.

July 2017, “Added Paragraphs 1, 5 and 7”.

“Modified Paragraphs 2, 3, and 4”

January, 2012

***Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any other request should be directed to:***  
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Control N°: F-RIN-04-01	Versión: 06	Date: August 1, 2016	Page 3 of 3



Dirección General de la Gente de Mar

**CIRCULAR**  
**No. DGGM-UCYC-053-2016**

**PARA:** Armadores/Operadores, Oficiales y Marineros, Representantes Legales de Naves de Bandera Panameña, Centros de Formación Marítima Autorizados, Organizaciones Reconocidas (OR's), Consulados Privativos de Marina Mercante, Inspectorías, Oficinas Autorizadas, Departamentos/Unidades/Áreas de la DGGM, Oficinas Regionales de Documentación de la Autoridad Marítima de Panamá

**DE:**  **Dra. Magdalena Carrera**  
Directora General de Gente de Mar

**ASUNTO:** Entrada en vigor de las Enmiendas de Manila 2010 al Convenio STW'78, enmendado

**FECHA:** 23 de diciembre de 2016



La presente tiene como propósito reiterar a los usuarios del Registro Panameño, que el 31 de diciembre de 2016, finaliza el período de transición de cinco (5) años establecido por la Organización Marítima Internacional (OMI), para la implementación de las Enmiendas de Manila 2010 al Convenio Internacional sobre Normas de Formación, Titulación y Guardia para la Gente de Mar (Convenio STW'78, enmendado), por lo cual a partir del 1 de enero de 2017, quedarán completamente implementadas dichas Enmiendas.


Al respecto informamos, a partir de 1 de enero de 2017, toda la gente de mar debe estar en posesión de un título o refrendo que cumpla lo dispuesto en las Enmiendas de Manila de 2010 al Convenio STCW'78, enmendado y al Código de Formación.

Cabe indicar que esta Administración Marítima, adoptó estas Enmiendas mediante la Resolución ADM No.148-2011 de 18 noviembre de 2011, y estableció los procedimientos y requisitos para que se expidan a la gente de mar títulos y refrendos apropiados y necesarios, en cumplimiento de las Enmiendas de Manila de 2010 al Convenio STCW'78, enmendado y al Código de Formación.

Con el propósito que la industria marítima, oficiales y marineros satisfagan los estándares internacionales de formación y competencia (garantizando la seguridad de la vida humana en el mar, la eficacia de la navegación, así como de la protección del medio marino), esta Administración mantiene su compromiso de cumplir con los instrumentos de la Organización Marítima Internacional

Marítima Internacional (OMI), tales como el Convenio STCW'78, enmendado, del cual la República de Panamá es signataria.

Por lo anterior, les solicitamos a todos los usuarios tomar las medidas necesarias que les permitan cumplir lo dispuesto en las Enmiendas de Manila de 2010 al Convenio STCW'78, enmendado, teniendo en cuenta que la gente de mar a bordo de los buques tienen la obligación de poseer la debida competencia y titulación para desempeñar sus cargos y funciones; y que el incumplimiento de estas Enmiendas podría representar detenciones de las naves por parte de los Estados Rectores de Puerto.



MC/CH/jdo



General Directorate of Seafarers

**CIRCULAR**  
**No. DGGM-UCYC-053-2016**

**TO:** Shipowners/Operators, Officers and Ratings, Legal Representatives of Panama-Flag Vessels, Authorized Maritime Training Centers, Recognized Organizations (OR's), Merchant Marine Privative Consulates, Inspectorates, Authorized Offices, Departments/Units/Areas of the GDS, Regional Documentation Offices of the Panama Maritime Authority

**FROM:** Magdalena Carrera, PhD  
General Director of Seafarers

**SUBJECT:** The implementation of the 2010 Manila Amendments to the Convention STCW'78, as amended

**DATE:** December 23<sup>th</sup>, 2016



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This document has the aim of reiterating to the users of the Panamanian Registry, that on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016, ends the transitioning period of five (5) years, established by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), for the implementation of the 2010 Manila Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (Convention STCW'78, as amended), for this reason from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 such Amendments will be fully implemented.

In this regard, it is informed that since January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, every seafarer must hold a certificate or endorsement which complies with the provisions of the 2010 Manila Amendments to the Convention STCW'78, as amended, and the STCW Code.

It is important to note that this Maritime Administration, adopted these Amendments through the Resolution No.148-2011 of November 11<sup>th</sup> of 2010, and established the procedures and requirements in order that the necessary and appropriate certificates and endorsements be issued, in compliance with the 2010 Manila Amendments to the Convention STCW'78, as amended and the STCW Code.

Likewise, with the purpose that the maritime industry, officers, and ratings satisfy the international standards of training and competence (ensuring the safety of life at sea, the effectiveness of navigation, as well as the marine environment protection), this Administration remains committed in the compliance of the instruments of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), such as the Convention STCW'78, as amended, to which the Republic of Panama is signatory.

For the aforementioned, users are asked to take the necessary measures which let them comply with the provisions of the 2010 Manila Amendments to the Convention STCW'78, as amended, taking account of seafarers serving on board of ships are required to hold the appropriate competence and certification to perform their respective capacities and functions; and the non-compliance of this Amendments could represent detention of ships by the Port State Control.



MC/CH/jdo



**DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE LA GENTE DE MAR  
DESPACHO DEL DIRECTOR**

Panamá, 19 de diciembre, 2011

**CIRCULAR No. 024 - 2011 - DGGM**

**PARA:** CONSULADOS PRIVATIVOS DE MARINA MERCANTE, OFICINAS REGIONALES DE DOCUMENTACIÓN DE LA AMP, CENTROS DE FORMACIÓN MARÍTIMA RECONOCIDOS Y AUTORIZADOS, INSPECTORÍAS Y OFICINAS AUTORIZADAS.

**C.I** ADMINISTRADOR DE LA AUTORIDAD MARÍTIMA DE PANAMÁ, SUB-ADMINISTRADOR DE LA AUTORIDAD MARÍTIMA DE PANAMÁ, DEPARTAMENTOS DE LA DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE LA GENTE DE MAR.

**DE:**

**ROSSANA CEDEÑO**

SUB-DIRECTORA GENERAL DE LA GENTE DE MAR



**ASUNTO:**

COMUNICACIÓN DE RESOLUCIÓN ADM POR LA CUAL SE ADOPTAN LAS ENMIENDAS DE MANILA 2010.

**FECHA:**

19 de diciembre de 2011

Estimados señores,

Mediante la presente tengo el agrado de comunicar la **Resolución ADM No. 148-2011**, publicada en Gaceta Oficial No. 26932-A, del 15 de diciembre de 2011. Por la cual se adoptan las Enmiendas de Manila 2010, efectuadas al Convenio Internacional sobre Normas de Formación, Titulación y Guardia para la Gente de Mar, 1978 Enmendado (Convenio STCW 78, Enmendado) y a su Código Inmerso.

RC/AR/lrg



## **RESOLUTION ADM. No. 148-2011**

**THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY**, in use of his legal powers, and

### **WHEREAS:**

That by Law Decree No. 7, of February 10<sup>th</sup> of 1998, is created the Panama Maritime Authority and it was assigned among its functions to: recommend policies and actions, exercise acts of administration, as well as to enforce the legal and regulative standards with regard to the Maritime Sector.

That Article 3 Law Decree 7 of February 10<sup>th</sup> of 1998 establishes as main objectives of the Panama Maritime Authority the administration, promotion, regularization, projection, and execution of policies, strategies, legal and regulatory standards, plans, and programs that are directly, indirectly or connectively related with the functioning and development of the Maritime Sector.

That through Law N°4 of May 15<sup>th</sup> of 1992, the Republic of Panama has become Party of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended (1978 STCW Convention, as amended), in which has been established the minimum standards of training and certification for seafarers on board of ships.

That through the Resolution ADM No.106-2008 of September 22<sup>nd</sup> of 2008, it was approved the national standards regarding the resting and watchkeeping time of seafarers, in compliance of the demands imposed by the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended, by virtue of Regulations VIII/1 and VIII/2.

That through the Resolution ADM N°084-2008 of August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008, it was approved the implementation of the Ship Security Officer Certificate, according with the national and international standards for the Certification of Seafarers in accordance with the requirements imposed by the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, as amended in 1995 (1978 STCW Convention, as amended), and the International Ship and Port Security Code (ISPS Code).

That the International Maritime Organization (IMO) of June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010, adopted through the Resolution 1 and 2 of the Conference of the Parties of Manila 2010 (2010 Manila Amendments), the amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, and the amendments to the Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW) Code; which will be entering into force on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012.

That through Resolution J.D. N°055-2008 of September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008, the Administrator of the Panama Maritime Authority was authorized to regulate the technical topics which were competence of this Institution, and due legal provisions are not ascribed to the General Directorates of this entity, related to the enforcement of the international conventions in maritime affairs.

That in order to ensure the effectiveness and control of the Panamanian Maritime Administration in the implementation of the 2010 Manila Amendments to the International Convention on

Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping of Seafarers, 1978, as amended (1978 STCW Convention, as amended), and its Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping Code; it is job of the Administrator of the Panama Maritime Authority keeping updated the instruments of mandatory nature, of which Panama is signatory; therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED:**

**FIRST:** **TO ADOPT** the Resolution 1 in all its parts, and the Annex 1 of the Resolution 2 adopted on June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010, through the 2010 Manila Amendments, to the International Convention on Standards of training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended (1978 STCW Convention, as amended) and its Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping Code, respectively.

**SECOND:** **TO APPLY** the Resolution 1 in all its parts and the Annex 1 of the Resolution 2 adopted on June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010, through the 2010 Manila Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended (1978 STCW Convention, as amended) and its Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping Code, respectively.

**THIRD:** **TO ORDER** the General Director of Seafarers to communicate through Circulars to all maritime community, including the Maritime Centers recognized and authorized by the Panama Maritime Authority, the compliance of the 2010 Manila Amendments, adopted through this Resolution.

**FOURTH:** That at the time of onboard or ashore training for seafarers, the Maritime Training Centers recognized and authorized by the Panama Maritime Authority through the General Directorate of Seafarers must comply with the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended, STCW Code, as amended, and other provisions that the Panamanian Maritime Administration issue.

**FIFTH:** That this Resolution will enter into force since its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Panama.

**LEGAL BASIS:** Law No.4 of May 15<sup>th</sup>, 1992  
Law Decree No.7 of February 10<sup>th</sup>, 1998, amended by Lay No.57 of August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009.  
Resolution J.D. No.055-2008 of September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008.  
Resolution ADM. No.084-2008 of August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008.  
Resolution ADM. No.106-2008 of September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008.

**TO BE PUBLISHED, COMMUNICATED AND COMPLIED,**

Given in the City of Panama this eighteenth (18<sup>th</sup>) day of November, two thousand and eleven (2011).

**ROBERTO J. LINARES T.**  
Administrator  
Panama Maritime Authority