

GIBRALTAR MARITIME ADMINISTRATION
Ministry of Maritime Affairs



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Local Maritime Direction – No 015

To: All local Agents and Operators

Syllabus for Gibraltar Boatmaster and Marine Engine Operator.

Reference: Government of Gibraltar Administrative Instruction STCW-14, Annex 1

Boat-master's Certificate: Every person who intends to take charge of a vessel operated commercially within Gibraltar waters must hold this qualification. The qualification is also a requirement for operating vessels over 12 metres in length owned or operated by a Government Department or any Agency or Authority under it within Gibraltar waters.

Refer to Annex 1

Marine Engine Operator's Certificate: Every person who intends to take charge of the operation of machinery on a vessel operated commercially with propulsion power of less than 750 kW must hold this qualification.

Refer to Annex 2

R Montado
Maritime Administrator

Issue date: 05 May 2014

All notices are available through www.gibraltarship.com

ANNEX 1

BOATMASTER'S CERTIFICATE SYLLABUS

BOAT HANDLING:

Berthing and un-berthing
Coming to and weighing anchor
Making fast to and leaving a buoy
Boat manoeuvring in confined waters & turning short round;
Knowledge and effect of transverse thrust;
Steering a compass course and taking a rough bearing;

EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Recovery of man overboard;
Loss of Engines;
Loss of Steering ability;
Action to take in the event of a Collision / Grounding / Accident to Crew Member or Passenger;
Use of Extinguishing Appliances;
Use of Life-Saving Appliances;
Search and Rescue techniques in bad weather or reduced visibility;
Choosing an appropriate area for Beaching or shelter in bad weather;
Practical demonstration on the use of VHF;

REGULATIONS FOR PREVENTING COLLISIONS AT SEA

A practical knowledge of the Rules of the Road;

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE AND REGULATIONS

Local Maritime Directives and Port Authority Notices to Mariners
Local navigation marks – to include buoyage, lights, leading lights and marks
Boundaries of Gibraltar territorial waters and areas of operation
Local dangers to navigation: obstructions, currents and abnormal tidal streams
Local safe landing places in differing weather conditions
A general knowledge of the Times and Heights of Spring Tides
Safe passage in and out of harbour
Any other item of local knowledge which the examiner may deem to be necessary
Means and procedures for communication with owners/ operators & Port Authority

SEAMANSHIP

Common Nautical terms
Interaction with other vessels
Transfer of personnel, stores and spares to / from ships

CHARTWORK

The meaning of common chart symbols
The use of tidal diamonds
Position Fixing
Courses to steer allowing for current and leeway
Familiarity with the use of parallel rules, dividers, compasses, etc.

LIFE-SAVING AND FIRE-FIGHTING APPLIANCES

A knowledge of the Statutory requirements and appreciation of the fact that the person in charge of a vessel must be satisfied that the Life-saving and Fire-fighting appliances are properly maintained
Use and deployment of Inflatable Liferafts and Rescue Boats
Inflatable liferaft servicing requirement & use of hydrostatic release units.

DISTRESS SIGNALS

A knowledge of the contents of Annex IV of the Collision Regulations and the operation of the signaling equipment required to be carried

LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARDS PASSENGERS AND CREW

Safe Access
Safe Working Practices
Safety Survey Certificate and basic understanding of the law regarding it.

WEATHER

Sources of information
Local conditions and effects, signs of approaching bad weather.

ENGINEERING KNOWLEDGE

Basic knowledge of day to day engine and battery checks
Routine Maintenance of Propulsion and Auxiliary Machinery

PUBLICATIONS

Port and Local Notices to Mariners, Admiralty Notices to Mariners;
Basic understanding of applicable Gibraltar Ordinances and Regulations & Administrative Instructions.

POLLUTION REGULATIONS

A general appreciation of the Regulations applicable to the Prevention of Pollution, concerning Oil and Garbage.

RADAR AND NAVIGATIONAL AIDS

Knowledge of the use of radar, echo sounder and any other position-fixing device on board the vessel.

BASIC KNOWLEDGE OF VESSEL CONSTRUCTION AND STABILITY

General knowledge of ship construction and of plans available onboard the vessel, where these are carried;
Maintaining watertight sub-division
Main and emergency bilge pumping arrangements, general pumping arrangements
Basic understanding of the effect on stability of loading, discharging, weight distribution and slack tanks
Outline knowledge of freeboard and trim
Basic use of stability and hydrostatic data, where provided.

HOURS OF WORK

Knowledge of the regulations on hours of work and rest.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

Basic knowledge of the documents required to be on board.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PASSENGER BOATMASTER'S CERTIFICATE

PASSENGER MANAGEMENT

Safety announcements (M.1386);
Disposition of passengers and crew to ensure stability and trim;
Passenger numbers and reporting Systems (M.1408);
Knowledge of other relevant M. Notices.

PASSENGER MUSTER AND EMERGENCY DRILL

Knowledge of methods of orderly evacuation following any emergency, having regard to the size of the vessel concerned and its operational area.

SAFETY MANAGEMENT CODE FOR DOMESTIC PASSENGER SHIPS

Knowledge of all elements of the Safety Management Code for Domestic Passenger Vessels

DOCUMENTATION AND CERTIFICATES TO BE CARRIED ON BOARD

Certificates required, including Safety Survey Certificate, Gibraltar Passenger Certificate, Safety Management Code for Domestic Passenger Ships, Crew Qualification requirements.

ANNEX 2

MARINE ENGINE OPERATOR'S SYLLABUS

ENGINE ROOM ROUTINE

Handing over / taking over a period of duty;
Safety precautions to be observed during a period of duty
Preparing main machinery, steering system and auxiliary equipment for sea
Routine pumping operations of fuel oil and fresh water
Bilge pumping operations, main and emergency
The necessity for routine maintenance
The process of reversing a marine diesel engine / use of reduction gear

FAULT FINDING

Location and rectification of common faults in main machinery, steering systems, and auxiliary equipment

ELECTRICAL POWER

Knowledge of electrical power supplies (alternators, generators and batteries)
Immediate action necessary in the case of an electric shock
Use of shaft generator

Record keeping

The necessity to maintain records of machinery and performance, and be able to interpret the information with regard to common defects

Voyage requirements

Voyage requirements, including bunkers, lubricants, water, expendables etc.
The consequences of sailing with certain items of machinery inoperative, and the risks involved in doing so

Fire Precautions & Prevention

Machinery space fire-fighting arrangements;
The precautions to be taken to reduce the possibility of machinery space fires;
Immediate action in the event of fire or serious accident;
Precautions to be taken when carrying out hot work;

Pollution Prevention

Precautions to be observed to prevent environmental pollution (oil and garbage)
Responsibilities and duties concerning bunkering operations;

Health and Safety – basic understanding.

If the Applicant is applying to serve on a Domestic Passenger Vessel, a basic understanding of the Safety Management Code for Domestic Passenger Vessels will be required.