

Regulation No. 175/2008
on the certification of deck officers and marine engineers serving on board fishing vessels,
Coast Guard vessels and other vessels, as amended by Regulations 535/2008, 248/2010 and
886/2010

CHAPTER I
General provisions

Article 1
Objective

The objective of this Regulation is to lay down requirements for the issue of certificates of competency to deck officers and marine engineers serving on board fishing vessels, coastguard vessels and other vessels in accordance with the provisions of the Act on the certification of crews serving on board fishing vessels, coastguard vessels, pleasure craft and other vessels. , the objective of this Regulation is to lay down requirements for the issue of pleasure boat certificates of competency.

Article 2
Application

This Regulation shall apply to crews serving on board Icelandic ships registered in Iceland pursuant to the Registration of Ships Act, other than passenger ships and cargo ships. Regulation and its annexes shall also apply to the operators of pleasure craft within the Icelandic territorial sea. However, exempted from the provisions of the Regulation are operators of foreign pleasure craft which engage on temporarily voyages within Iceland's territorial waters and which have acquired an appropriate permission by Icelandic customs authorities to be on passage within Iceland's territorial waters, provided they stay within the territorial waters no longer than 9 months in any 12 month period.

Article 3
Definitions

The following definitions of terms in this Regulation shall, insofar they are not defined in Act. 30/2007, apply:

- a) *School* means a training institute which provides education and is recognized by the Ministry of Culture and Education.
- b) *Training record book* means a book issued by or approved by the Icelandic Transport Authority in which the relevant training tasks are recorded and the adequate completion of which shall be checked by the relevant officer, as appropriate.

CHAPTER II
Education, training and certification

Article 4
Education and Training

The Icelandic Transport Authority, or other recognized party appointed by the Ministry of the Interior and Ministry of Education, shall supervise and certify that education and training offered at maritime training institutions meets the requirements of the International Convention. Schools must apply to the Icelandic Transport Authority for certification. Such certification shall be valid for 5 years at a time. After that date the relevant maritime training institutions shall renew their

applications for certification and submit all necessary documents to verify that the training institution fulfils the requirements of the International Convention. The Icelandic Transport Authority or the party appointed as referred to in Article 1 consider that a relevant school fails to fulfil the requirements provided for in the International Convention the Administration shall withdraw the issued certification as long as such a state exists.

Article 5

Certificates of competency of deck officers and marine engineer officers on fishing vessels, coast guard vessels and other vessels

To be issued a certificate of competency as deck officer and/or marine engineer officer pursuant to Article 8 of the Act on crews serving on board fishing vessels, coastguard vessels and other vessels the candidate shall have fulfilled the provisions of this regulation on age, education, seagoing service and medical fitness. Those who are legitimate holders of certificates of competency of deck officers and/or marine engineer officers pursuant to Article 8 of the Act on crews serving on board fishing vessels, coastguard vessels and other vessels has the right to serve as deck officer/marine engineer on board fishing vessels, coastguard ships and other vessels with the limitations depending on the validity of the certificate, as further provided for in Articles 6 to 16.

Article 6

Small-vessel course

A candidate who has completed the small-vessel course under the relevant regulation has the right to be issued a certificate as:

- a) Master/mate on vessels of less than 12 meters in registered length engaged on near coastal voyages after 12 months' seagoing service (*Small-vessel certificate*).

Article 7

Deck officers' education and training A

A candidate who has completed deck officers' and masters' education and training A has the right to be issued a certificate as:

- a) Master on vessels of less than 12 meters in registered length engaged on near coastal voyages after 12 months' seagoing service (*Small-vessel certificate*).
- b) Officer in charge of a navigational watch on vessels of less than 45 meters in registered length on domestic voyages after 18 months' seagoing service (***Certificate: Ab***).
- c) Mate on vessels of less than 24 meters in length on domestic voyages after 18 months of seagoing service (***Certificate: Ac***).
- d) Master on vessels of less than 24 meters in registered length engaged on domestic voyages after 12 months' seagoing service as mate or at least 12 months' seagoing service as master on vessels of less than 12 meters in registered length (***Certificate: Ad***).¹⁾

¹⁾ Article 1, Regulation 535/2008

Article 8

Deck officers' education and training B

A candidate who has completed deck officers' and masters' education and training B has the right to be issued a certificate as:

- a) Chief mate/officer in charge of navigational watch on vessels of less than 45 meters in registered length on domestic voyages after 18 months' seagoing service (***Certificate: Ba***).
- b) Master on vessels of less than 45 meters in registered length engaged on domestic voyages after 12 months' seagoing service as mate on vessels of less than 45 meters in registered length or 12 months' seagoing service as master of vessels of less than 24 meters in

- registered length(**Certificate: Bc**).
- c) Officer in charge of a navigational watch on fishing vessels and other vessels of unlimited size and area of operation after 18 months' seagoing service (**Certificate: Bb**).²⁾

Theoretical education and training B shall fulfil the theoretical studies requirements for certificate STCW II/3 (500 GT) pursuant to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW 1978).

²⁾ Article of 2, Regulation 535/2008

Article 9

Deck officers' education and training C

A candidate who has completed deck officers' and masters' education and training C has the right to be issued a certificate as:

- a) Chief officer of fishing vessels and other ships of unlimited size and trading area after 12 months of seagoing service as mate or master of vessels 24 meters or over in registered length (**Certificate: Ca**).³⁾
- b) Master on vessels of unlimited size and area of operation after 12 months' seagoing service as chief mate on ships of 45 m in registered length or 12 months as master on ships of over 24 m in registered length(**Certificate: Cb**).⁴⁾

Theoretical education and training C shall fulfil the theoretical studies requirements for certificate STCW II/2 (3000 BT) pursuant to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW 1978).

³⁾ Article 1 of Reg. 248/2010

⁴⁾ Article 3 of Reg. 535/2008

Article 10

Deck officers' education and training D

A candidate who has completed deck officers' and masters' education D has the right to be issued a certificate as:

- a) Chief Officer on coast guard ships of unlimited size and area of operation after 12 months of seagoing service as mate on ships of 500 GT or more in size (**Certificate: D**).
- b) Officer in charge of a navigational watch on coast guard ships after 18 months of seagoing service (**Certificate: Db**).⁵⁾

⁵⁾ Article 2 of Reg. 248/2010

Theoretical education and training D fulfil the theoretical studies requirements for certificate STCW II/2 pursuant to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW 1978).

Article 11

Deck officers' education and training E

A candidate who has completed deck officers' and masters' education and training E has the right to be issued a certificate as:

- a) Commodore on coast guard vessels of unlimited size and area of operation after having completed 36 months' seagoing service as chief mate on ships of 500 GT and above, and including at least 6 months as chief mate of coast guard vessels(**Certificate: E**).

Article 12

Engine attendant education and training

A candidate who has completed engine attendance education pursuant to a regulation adopted

by the Ministry of Education, or completed workshop skills programme in practical engineering, has acquired the right to be an engine attendant on vessels 12 m and less in registered length with propulsion machinery power of 750 kW or less (*Certificate: Small-vessel engine attendant (SSV)*).

Upon completion of additional education (RAF103 and two of the following three courses; RAF253, VST204 and KÆL122, the School of Marine Engineering may assess comparable courses as equivalent) as defined in the curriculum he gains the right to become an engine attendant on a ship with 750 kW engine power and less (*Certificates: Engine Attendant (VV)*) and chief engineer on ships with 750 kW engine power and less and 24 m in registered length and less after 4 months' seagoing service as engine attendant (*Certificate: Engine attendant (VVy)*).⁶⁾

⁶⁾ Article 1 of Regulation 886/2010

Article 13

Marine engineers' education and training A

A candidate who has completed marine engineers' education and training A has the right to be issued a certificate as:

- a) Engine attendant on ships with propulsion machinery power 750 kW and less (*Certificate: Engine attendant (VV)*).
- b) Chief engineer on a ship of 750 kW or less after 9 months' seagoing service as engine attendant (*Certificate: Engineer officer III. (VS.III)*)

Article 14

Marine Engineers' education B

A candidate who has completed marine engineers' education and training B has the right to be issued a certificate as:

- a) Engine attendant (*Certificate: Engine attendant (VV)*).
- b) Chief engineer officer on a ship of 750 kW or less after 8 months' seagoing service as engine attendant (*Certificate: Engineer officer III (VS.III)*). . Second engineer officer on a ship of 1500 kW propulsion machinery power and less and officer in charge of an engineering watch on a ship with 3000 kW propulsion machinery power or less after completing 12 months' seagoing service as engine attendant or engineer on a ship, thereof at least 3 months as engineer (*Certificate : Engineer Officer II (VS.II)*)
- d) Chief engineer officer on a ship with propulsion machinery power of 1500 kW or less after completing 18 months' seagoing service as engineer officer or engine attendant on a ship, thereof 9 months as an engineer officer (*Certificate: Engineer officer I (VS.I)*). ⁷⁾

⁷⁾ Article 5 of Regulation 535/2008

Article 15

Marine Engineers' Education and Training C

A candidate who has completed marine engineers' education and training C, having fulfilled requirements, has the right to be issued a certificate as:

- a) Engine attendant (*Certificate: Engine Attendant (VV)*).
- b) An officer in charge of an engineering watch on a ship with propulsion machinery power of less than 3000 kW and Second engineer officer on a ship with propulsion machinery of 1500 kW and less after 1 month of seagoing service (*Certificate: Engineer Officer II. (VS.II)*).
- c) Chief engineer officer on a ship of 750 kW or less after 3 months' seagoing service as engine attendant or engineer (*Certificate: Engineer officer III (VS.III)*).

- d) Chief engineer officer on a ship with propulsion machinery power of 1500 kW and officer in charge of an engineering watch unlimited after completing 9 months of seagoing service as engineer officer (*Certificate: Engineer Officer I (VS.I)*).
- e) Second engineer officer on a ship with propulsion machinery of less than 3000 kW after completing 12 months of seagoing service as Engineer Officer (*Certificate: (VF.IV)*).
- f) Chief Engineer officer on a ship with propulsion machinery of less than 3000 kW after completing 12 months of seagoing service as Second Engineer Officer on a ship with propulsion machinery of less than 3000 kW (*Certificate: (VF.III)*).

In order to be issued a certificate under paragraphs e and f the candidate must also have completed:

- a) approved workshop skills training ashore or on board a ship, registered in a training record book, or
- b) workshop skills programme in a recognized metalworking trade.⁸⁾

Theoretical studies for marine engineers' education C shall fulfil the theoretical studies requirements for certificate STCW/3 pursuant to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW 1978).

⁸⁾ Article 6 of Regulation 535/2008

Article 16

Marine Engineers' Training D

A candidate who has completed marine engineers' training D, mechanical engineer, having fulfilled other conditions, has the right to be issued a certificate as:

- a) Chief engineer on a ship of 750 kW or less after 1 month of seagoing service (*Certificate: Engineer officer (VS.III)*). .
- b) Officer in charge of an engineering watch on a ship with propulsion machinery power of less than 3000 kW and Second engineer officer on a ship with propulsion machinery of 1500 kW and less after completing 1 month of seagoing service(*Certificate: Engineer Officer II (VS.II)*).
- c) Chief engineer on a ship with propulsion machinery power of 1500 kW and officer in charge of an engineering watch unlimited after and the engineer unlimited after completing 9 months of seagoing service as engineer (*Certificate: Marine Engineer I (VS.I)*).
- d) Second engineer officer on a ship with unlimited propulsion machinery power and chief engineer officer on a ship with propulsion machinery power of less than 3000 kW after completing 12 months of seagoing service as engineer (*Certificate: (VF.II)*).
- e) Chief engineer officer on a ship with unlimited propulsion machinery power after completing 24 months' seagoing service as engineer officer, after having been qualified to serve as a second engineer officer, on a ship with unlimited propulsion machinery power (*Certificate: (VF.I)*).

In order to be issued a certificate under paragraphs d and e the candidate must also have completed:

- a) approved workshop skills training ashore or on board a ship, registered in a training record book, or
- b) workshop skills programme in a recognized metalworking trade.⁹⁾

Theoretical training programme for marine engineers' education D shall comply with the requirements for theoretical study for certification STCW III/2 according to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW 1978), as amended.

⁹⁾ Article 7, Regulation No. 535/2008

Article 17
Pleasure Craft

Pleasure craft skipper certificates are provided for in Article 7 of Act No. 30/2007.

The Icelandic Transport Authority issues certificates for pleasure craft operators and they shall be in Icelandic and English. The form and content of such certificate shall be in conformity with the rules on international certificate for operators of pleasure craft (ICC Certificate).

A person in command of pleasure craft of 6 meters in registered length and over, but less than 24 meters, shall be a legitimate holder of a pleasure craft certificate for the pleasure craft in question and for the area where the craft is to be operated. The certificate shall specify the type of recreational craft and the area of operation for which the certificate is valid. Recreational certificates shall be issued for the following vessel types:

- a) Sailing vessels.
- b) Power driven vessels.

Recreational certificates shall be issued for the following areas of operation:

- a) Coastal navigation and navigation in a limited area of operation.
- b) Navigation on rivers, lakes and waterways in Europe.
- c) Unlimited area of operation, i.e. ocean navigation.

To obtain a recreational craft certificate, the applicant shall have reached the age of 16, passed both written and practical examinations for operating different types of recreational craft and in various areas of operation. An applicant for a pleasure craft license shall be a citizen or having obtained permanent residence in Iceland. He shall submit a medical certificate verifying that he fulfils mental and physical health requirements enabling him to command recreational craft safely with special regard to hearing and sight.

Anyone who commands a recreational craft of 24 meters in length or over must meet the same requirements to be fulfilled for certification as master of fishing vessels and other ships of the same size.

Recreational craft of 24 meters in registered length and over with engine power 750 kW or less shall be manned with a person who holds the engine attendant certificate.

Recreational craft of 24 meters registered length and over with engine power of more than 750 kW shall be an engineer who has completed training for the 750 kW certificate of competency.

Legitimate holders of a master's certificate of competency shall have the right to command a recreational craft engaged in near-coastal navigation. Legitimate holders of a master's certificate of competency of ships with no limitations of area of operation shall have the right to command recreational craft on ocean-going voyages.

A candidate who has completed the theoretical part of deck officers' training programme has the right to be issued a recreational craft certificate upon passing a practical test covering different types of recreational craft, provided that he fulfils other requirements.

The holder of an international certificate for operators of pleasure craft (ICC Certificate), or other comparable foreign certificate to the satisfaction of the Icelandic Transport Authority, has the right to operate recreational craft in accordance with the type of recreational craft and the area of operation specified in the foreign certificate. If the case of certificates considered equivalent to the international certificate for operators of pleasure craft, the Icelandic Transport Authority shall endorse the certificate confirming that the authorized person may operate recreational craft. It is not permissible to issue an Icelandic pleasure craft certificate on the basis of a foreign certificate unless a confirmation is submitted stating that the study program curriculum to acquire the foreign certificate is comparable to the curriculum issued by the Ministry of Culture and Education for issuance of pleasure craft certificates.

Article 18

Seagoing service

Seagoing service is a recognized period of service on board a ship. The period of service is counted from the date on which the person involved is registered for work on a ship until the day when he is deregistered.

The candidate shall prove the seagoing service that he deems he has completed. This seagoing service may be proven by submitting a confirmation by the Registrar of Seamen or a correctly filled out maritime service record.

The candidate for certification who maintains that he has seagoing service on board a ship which is not registered in Iceland shall provide evidence of such seagoing service to the satisfaction of the Icelandic Transport Authority. In case of doubt as to the genuineness of that proof the Icelandic Transport Authority shall determine the seagoing service.

Article 19

Calculation and evaluation of seagoing service

When calculating seagoing service, the assumption shall be that one day corresponds to 8 hours of work contribution. If watchkeeping duties are maintained for more than 8 hours per 24 hour period the number of seagoing service days in a sea service book or verification document issued by the Registrar of Seamen may be multiplied by a factor of 1.5, provided the crewmember's workload period during 24 hours is at least 12 hours or more.

When evaluating seagoing service for marine engineer's certification, previous experience in marine engineering may be taken into account. Engine repairs on board ships, in a machine shop or other equivalent metal working trades and other jobs in an engine room of a ship may be considered equivalent to seagoing service for certification of marine engineers. At the time of initial issue of a certificate, this period shall, however, never be longer than $\frac{1}{4}$ of the required seagoing service for the issue of marine engineer's certificate.

At the time of renewal of a certificate of competency, when evaluating seagoing service, full account may be taken to the period spent teaching engineering subjects, teaching subjects on safety of seafarers, engine maintenance and in vessel engine surveying.

When evaluating seagoing service for the capacity of master, full account may be taken to the period spent teaching navigational subjects, teaching subjects on safety of seafarers and in vessel surveying. Despite requirements for seagoing service as a prerequisite for the issue of a deck officer's or marine engineer's certificate, the seagoing service requirements may be reduced up to half if the person has completed an approved training record book.

Article 20

Radio duties

Anyone who meets the requirements of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW 1978) has the right to obtain a certificate as radio operator.

In sea area STK and A1 the person responsible for performing GMDSS radio watch shall be the holder of the Restricted Operator's Certificate (ROC).

In sea areas A2, A3 and A4 the person responsible for performing the radio watch shall be the holder of General Operator's Certificate (GOC).

The requirements made to radio personnel shall be in accordance with IMO resolution A 703 (17), Article S47 in the Radio Regulation and Chapter III of the International Convention.

CHAPTER III
Certificates of competency

Article 21

Certificates

The certification is subject to provisions of Article 5, 6 and 8 of Act No. 30/2007.

Every candidate for certification shall, as appropriate, comply with the provisions of this Regulation on age, education, and sailing. Every candidate for certification shall also satisfy the provisions of Annex I on vision, hearing and other health requirements.

Article 22

Certification

The Icelandic Transport Authority issues certificates of competency under the provisions of this Regulation.

At the time of initial issue of a certificate under the provisions of this Regulation it shall be ensured that the applicant meets the requirements for the certificate. Documents shall be presented to demonstrate that the requirements of the Act and this Regulation on the issue of certificates are met. The Icelandic Transport Authority may refuse certificates and documents if there is doubt about their validity and authenticity. The Icelandic Transport Authority, or the Post and Telecommunication Administration under its authority, issue certificates required for radio operators, cf. Article 6 under the provisions of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certifications and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW 1978), the Radio Regulations and regulations on radio duties on board ships and ships' radio equipment, cf. Article 15 of the Ships' Radio Equipment and Radiocommunications Regulation No. 53/2000.

Article 23

Validity and revalidation of certificates of competency

The validity and revalidation of certificates is subject to the provisions of Article 9 of Act No. 30/2007.

Certificates shall be valid for up to 5 years when the certificate of competency for a specific capacity is issued for the first time. The Icelandic Transport Authority may issue certificates for a shorter period if the conditions for issuing licenses for 5 years are not met. In special circumstances, provisional certificates with validity of up to 60 days may be issued.

Certificates for deck officers and engineer officers on ships other than pleasure boats shall be renewed at five-year intervals. Certificates of Competency which do not fall under the International Convention may be renewed for up to 10 years at a time. Documents shall be presented showing that the requirements of the Act and this Regulation for certification are met. The Icelandic Transport Authority may reject certificates and documents if there is doubt about their validity or if it is found that certificates have been issued in by mistake or on false pretences.

A condition for renewal of a certificate of competency is the applicant has not been deprived of his certificate and that he has approved seagoing service of not less than one year during the last five years in a capacity to which he is entitled by virtue of his certificate or has been serving in a capacity equivalent to the certificate in question and is at least equivalent to the seagoing service as required, or by:

- a) successfully completing an approved course, or
- c) having completed at least three months seagoing service in the capacity immediately below the one which he is entitled by virtue of his certificate.

A certificate of competency as a deck officer and engineer officer cannot be renewed unless the candidate meets the requirements for medical fitness, according to Annex I to this Regulation.

Article 24

Recognition of Foreign Certificates of Competency

Recognition and endorsement of foreign certificates of competency is subject to Article 10 of Act No. 30/2007. Applications for endorsement of international certificates (STCW) and the renewal of endorsements shall be forwarded to the Icelandic Transport Authority on an application form, together with the information required by the Authority. The applicant for an endorsement for serving on board Icelandic vessels covered by this Regulation shall present his foreign certificate of competency and proof that he complies with the requirements on health, vision and hearing under Annex I. A person submitting a foreign certificate will not normally acquire a higher certificate to work on board Icelandic vessels than the one he/she has acquired in the issuing state.

If the applicant is not a holder of an international certificate (STCW), he/she shall submit documents demonstrating that the training program meets the requirements set out in Article 22 of this Regulation. The Icelandic Transport Authority will assess whether the education and studies which the holder has demonstrably completed fulfil the relevant training requirements. The Icelandic Transport Authority may seek the opinion of the expert on the eligibility of the candidate for certification. Furthermore, the Authority may reject certificates and documentation if there is doubt on their authenticity and validity.

If the applicant who submits a foreign certificate of competency is considered to satisfy the requirements of the Act and this Regulation, the Icelandic Transport Authority shall issue an endorsement.

The period of validity of endorsements will normally be the date of expiry of the foreign certificate of competency, but never more than 5 years from the date of issue of the foreign certificate. The Icelandic Transport Authority may issue endorsements for a shorter period of time if the conditions relating to the period of validity are not fully satisfied.

Article 25

Penalties

Infringement of this Regulation is subject to the provisions of Article 20 of Act No. 30/2007 on the crews of Icelandic fishing vessels, coastguard vessels, pleasure boats and other vessels.

Article 26

Entry into Force

This Regulation, adopted pursuant to Act No. 30/2007 on the crews of Icelandic fishing vessels, coastguard vessels, pleasure boats and other vessels is hereby ratified and shall enter into force immediately for all those concerned to comply with. Concurrently, Regulation No. 118/1996 on the certification of deck officers and marine engineers as amended, and Regulation No. 304/1993 on vision, hearing and health of deck officers, marine engineers and engine attendants serving on board Icelandic vessels and ratings serving on board merchant ships, as amended, are revoked.

Transitional Provisions

Those who are legitimate holders of certificates under legislation which is to be repealed by Act No. 30/2007 shall retain their certificate in full, provided they meet other requirements of this Regulation. New certificates of competency may be issued instead of existing certificates, cf. Article 22 of the Regulation.

Legitimate holders of certificates as skipper on 30 GRT vessels are eligible for obtaining a certificate pursuant to this Regulation as skipper of vessels up to 12 meters in length engaged in near-coastal operation, provided that they meet the conditions of Article 22 of this Regulation.

They are also entitled to the capacity of master/mate on ships which, according to Icelandic Transport Authority's Registry of ships, measured 30 GRT or less on 1 January 2008, provided that after that time no modifications have been made to the ships which will disrupt the basis for the calculation of GRT size.

In case a master or navigating officer holds a certificate to serve as master or navigating officer on a ship according to a tonnage limitation based on gross registered tons in older legislation, on which he is not qualified to serve under this Regulation, he may be granted a certificate to serve on board the same type of ship provided that the requirements of Article 22 are fulfilled. Legitimate holders of certificates as skipper on 80 GRT vessels are eligible for obtaining a certificate pursuant to this Regulation as skipper on vessels up to 24 meters in length engaged in near-coastal operation, provided they meet the conditions of Article 22 of this Regulation.

Legitimate holders of certificates as skippers on 200 GRT vessels are eligible for obtaining a certificate pursuant to this Regulation as skipper on vessels up to 45 meters in length engaged in near-coastal operation, provided that they meet the conditions of Article 22 of this Regulation.

Students who are studying in a training institute, which meets the requirements of Article 4 of Act No. 30/2007 on Icelandic crews serving on board Icelandic fishing vessels, pleasure boats and other vessels when this Regulation enters into force shall be entitled to receive the issued certificate that they had acquired under the old rules and regulations provided that they complete the program under the old curriculum at a normal pace.

A person who began studying for skipper's certificate for vessels of 30 gross registered tons and less after the entry into force of Regulation No. 531/2001 shall, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 6 of this Article, not be considered legitimate holders of a skipper's certificate on such vessels unless the study course which they completed was organized and held in full compliance with the provisions of Regulation No. 531/2001. Anyone who demonstrably completed a study course for vessels 30 gross registered tons and less before the entry into force of this Regulation but the studies did not satisfy the provisions to comply with the Regulation No. 531/2001 shall nevertheless be considered a valid holder of a recreational craft certificate, cf. Article 17, who are legitimate holders of engineering certificate VVy at the time of entry into force of this Regulation qualifying them to serve as engineers on vessels with engine power of 375 kW and less after 6 months of seagoing service as engine attendants shall retain their certificate in full, provided they meet other requirements of this Regulation. . Candidates who have completed additional education pursuant to the training programme issued by the Ministry of Education and Culture have the right to be issued a certificate pursuant to the provisions of Article 13 of this Regulation upon completion of the seagoing service provided therein.

The Ministry of the Interior, 19 February 2008

Kristján L. Möller
Ragnhildur Hjaltadóttir

ANNEX I

Requirements regarding sight, hearing and other medical fitness requirements

1. This Annex shall apply to the requirements to be made regarding eyesight, hearing and medical fitness of deck officers and marine engineer officers on ships subject to this Regulation and the medical certificates applying thereto.
2. Physicians issue medical certificates stating that an applicant for a certificate subject to this Regulation meets the requirements for medical fitness in accordance with the provisions of the appropriate capacity or function. Normally, the regular general practitioner of the person concerned shall carry out a medical examination and issue a medical certificate. The medical certificates shall be written on forms provided by the Ministry of the Interior or the Icelandic Transport Authority. Medical examinations, sight and hearing tests shall be conducted before the issue of and renewal of certificates of competency every five years. Medical certificates may not have been issued more than six months before certificates of service are issued or renewed. Before a medical fitness certificate is issued, the applicant shall demonstrate his identity by presenting identity papers or in another satisfactory manner.
3. There shall be no pathological condition in the applicant's eyes or associated organs which could reduce his capacity as a deck officer or marine engineer and pose a threat to the safety when engaged in his duties.
4. Deck officers, marine engineer officers and ratings shall demonstrate by means of a medical fitness certificate that they have at least the following eyesight:

Eyesight, with or without glasses or contact lenses		Minimum eyesight without glasses or contact lenses	
Better eye: 1.0 or 0.67	Poorer eye: 0.25 or 0.33	Better eye: 0.2	Poorer eye: 0.2
Reading eyesight:			
a distance of 30-40 cm: N5 (capital letters ca. 1.5 mm high: At a distance of 100 cm: N14 (capital letters ca. 4 mm high)			

5. Deck officers must prove that their vision is not impaired and that their colour vision is perfect. It shall be sufficient to test field of vision using a hand, or the "confrontation method" (Donder's method). It should be noted that each quarter of the field of vision is to be tested in this way from the centre, but not in a horizontal or vertical plane. Colour sensitivity is to be tested using recognized colour charts (Stilling's, Ishihara's or other comparable pseudoisochromatic charts). Tests may also be applied for the discernment of side lights ("lantern tests"); special mention of this shall be made on the ophthalmological certificate. Engineer officers shall be able to distinguish between red and green colour.
6. When undergoing the eye tests listed above, applicants may use glasses or contact lenses. Their eyesight shall also be tested without correction with the aid of glasses or contact lenses; their eyesight without correction shall be at least 0.2 (6/30).

7. If an applicant (or holder of a certificate) only meets the eyesight requirements of paragraph 4 when wearing glasses or contact lenses, he shall be obliged to use glasses or contact lenses, and also to have spare glasses or contact lenses on board the ship when he is in service on board.
8. The physician carrying out the test shall ask the person undergoing the test about his ability to distinguish objects in poor light. If anything is revealed by the test which indicates abnormally poor night vision, the applicant (or holder of a certificate) shall undergo a test for night vision (adaptation test), and mention of this shall be made on the ophthalmological certificate. Very poor night vision shall lead to suspension of the right to serve on board a ship, either temporarily or permanently if it proves incurable.
9. When examining hearing, an audiometer of a type approved as satisfactory by the Icelandic Ear Training and Speech Therapy Centre shall be used. The applicant (or holder of a certificate) shall be obliged to give the examining physician correct information about symptoms of deafness or dizziness if he has become aware of such. Audiological tests shall be carried out in a quiet room. It is desirable that the applicant shall not have been in a noisy environment for at least 40 hours before the audiological test is made.
10. Minimum requirements regarding the hearing of deck officers, marine engineer officers and ratings shall be as follows:

On admission to a training institution or training course and upon the issue of a certificate of competency for the first time:				Requirements when certificates are renewed:			
0.5 - 1-2 kHz		3 - 4 kHz		0.5 - 1-2 kHz with or without hearing aid		3 - 4 KHz with or without hearing aid	
Better ear	Poorer ear	Better ear	Poorer ear	Better ear	Poorer ear	Better ear	Poorer ear
25 dB	35 dB	35 dB	45 dB	35 dB	45 dB	45 dB	55 dB

11. A hearing aid may be used in a test for the renewal of a certificate, but not when first applying for a certificate or for admission to college or course. If there is any doubt as to whether an applicant's hearing is satisfactory according to the above requirements, the person concerned may be referred to the Icelandic Ear Training and Speech Therapy Centre for further audiological tests. Certificate holders who only meet the above requirements when using hearing aids shall undergo tests every two years.
12. After 20 years' work, the minimum hearing (audial threshold) of marine engineers or engine attendants, at frequencies over 2.0 KHz (i.e. at 3.0 or 4.0 KHz) may be poorer than is

stipulated above, providing that their audial threshold at frequencies of 0.5, 1.0 and 2.0 KHz is normal (not poorer than 25 dB), providing that the physician is of the opinion that the audial damage is the result of noise. In these exceptional cases, the audial test shall be carried out by a specialist in audial diseases, and he shall state his opinion as to whether the certificate holder is to be considered competent or not.

13. A deck officer or marine engineer officer shall not suffer from any disease, e.g. a nervous disorder, psychiatric disorder or heart disease, which could threaten the safety of the ship and its personnel or substantially diminish his working competence. In each individual case it shall be up to the physician involved to assess whether a disorder is of such a nature, or at such a stage, that the deck officer or marine engineer officer meets this requirement. If a certificate holder is involved in an accident, or contracts an illness, which damages his eyesight, hearing or health, he shall be obliged to undergo a medical examination to establish whether he meets these requirements. If he does not meet the requirements, his certificate shall be cancelled. Following medical treatment or rehabilitation, he may re-apply for a certificate.
14. If a person who is issued with a medical certificate does not accept a physician's ruling concerning his fitness for work under this Annex, he shall have the right to undergo another medical examination. A committee appointed by the Minister and consisting of two persons with knowledge of seamanship and one physician shall determine the applicant's competence. It is assumed that the physician will be an expert in the appropriate field in each given instance. The committee shall deliver rulings on points of dispute. It shall not have the power to grant exemptions from the provisions of paragraphs 2-11 in the case of medical certificates issued for the first time. In the case of a medical certificate issued in connection with the renewal of a certificate of competency, authorization for the granting of dispensations shall be in accordance with the above provisions.
15. If a deck officer or marine engineer officer loses his right to serve in consequence of the provisions of this Annex following an accident or illness, the Icelandic Transport Authority may grant a dispensation from it providing that the committee described in paragraph 14 recommends the granting of a dispensation. Dispensations may first be granted 6 months after the accident or illness which caused the suspension of a certificate. In no case may such dispensations be granted if the person's eyesight with glasses or contact lenses is below 6/9 or 0.67 in his better eye, or the eye remaining after the other eye has become completely useless. Furthermore, the field of vision of the eye must be undiminished. In addition, dispensations may never be granted if the person's minimum hearing (audial threshold) is above 35 dB at frequencies of 0.5 to 2 KHz and above 45 dB at frequencies of 3 to 4 KHz in his better ear, or the ear remaining after the other ear has become completely useless. Exemption may only be granted to experienced officers in the deck engine-room departments.