

MariFuture

Development Paper – October 2011 Issue

Standards for Maritime English

A review of STCW codes and recent amendments to it will come into force in January 2012. A summary of the changes introduced in Manila in June 2010 are presented in the MariFuture (www.marifuture.org) Development Paper, in October 2011 Issue. These amendments require reliable and clear evidence of the Maritime English communicative competency level of all seafarers. Maritime Education and Training institutions and ship owners are facing a major challenge to ensure that "...at all times on board ships there shall be effective oral communication" and also that their crews hold appropriate certificates demonstrating their competencies. MarTEL Standards, see Marifuture Development Paper, December 2010 Issue, built on successful EU funded projects Safety On Sea (SOS) and TRAINS 4Cs are a comprehensive and reliable set of Maritime English competency testing and certification solution for all types and ranks of seafarers.

The following are some of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) language competence requirements:

Effective Communication Written and Oral

Each administration **shall**...require every...company to ensure that
At all times on board ships there **shall** be effective **written** and **oral** communication
in accordance with

Chapter V, Regulation 14, paragraphs 3 and 4 of the SOLAS convention - (IMO, 2010)

Effective Communication Speaking

Table A-II/1, Table II/2, II/5, III/1, III/2, III/5 and III/6

- Use the IMO SMCP and use of English in Oral form
- Communicate with other ships, coast stations and VTS centres
- Communications are clear and understood

Speaking continues

- Ability to establish and maintain effective communications during loading and unloading
- Ability to explain to ensure reliable detection of defects and damage
- Effective communications on board and ashore
- Radio communications are established and correct communications procedures are followed at all stages of SAR operations
- Communication is clear and unambiguously given and received

Effective Communication Written

All above in particular:
Table A II/1

- Use the IMO SMCP and use English in Written form
- Adequate knowledge of English to enable the officers to use English publications and to perform the officer's duties.

Writing continues

Transmission and reception of messages are consistently **successful**, communication recorded are complete, accurate and comply with statutory requirements.

Effective Communication Reading and Listening

All above – Note requirement of 'Reception of communication emphasises Listening.

Peter Trekner, (28 October 2010)

Reading, listening, **understanding** and **acting** (speaking, writing)

MarTEL

Building on SMCP – but introducing the need to demonstrate English language and maritime vocational communication competence through a set of Maritime standards.