



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS  
MINISTRY OF  
COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS



DEPARTMENT  
OF MERCHANT SHIPPING  
LEMESOS

Circular No. 29/2012

28 June 2012

TEN:5.13.09

TEN:7.01.01

To all Registered owners, Registered bareboat charterers  
Managers and Representatives of ships flying the Cyprus Flag

Subject: **International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, STCW 78, as Amended- Issue of Seafarer's Identification and Sea Service Record Books and Endorsements Attesting the Recognition of Non Cyprus Certificate (Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems(ECDIS) Training)**

I refer to the above subject and further to our circular No. 26/2006 dated 06<sup>th</sup> December 2006 and taking into consideration IMO circular STCW.7/Circ.18 dated 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2012, I wish to inform you the following:

1. Regulation I/14, paragraph 1.5 of the STCW Convention, as well as sections 6.3 and 6.5 of the International Safety Management Code, requires companies to ensure seafarers are provided with familiarization training. A ship safety management system should include familiarization of the ECDIS equipment fitted, including its backup arrangements, sensors and related peripherals. A record of such familiarization should be provided.
2. Ship owners and managers are encouraged to use resources from ECDIS manufacturers, such as type specific materials, which could be provided on a CD or DVD. These resources may form part of the ECDIS familiarization training.
3. While there may be no requirement for masters and officers serving on vessels fitted with ECDIS to meet the 2010 Manila Amendments before 1 January 2017, it is encouraged prior to serving on such vessels that these seafarers should be provided with generic training in accordance with the IMO model course 1.27.
4. A certificate of competency issued in accordance with the 2010 Manila Amendments would be prima facie evidence of generic ECDIS training; nevertheless, the familiarization training of the ECDIS equipment fitted on board should be recorded. Records of the aforementioned ECDIS familiarization training for Master and deck officers should be available on board.



The Department will be at the disposal of Owners, Managers and anyone concerned with the matter for any explanations and clarifications they may require.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I. Efstratiou', enclosed within a hand-drawn oval.

Ioannis Efstratiou  
Acting Director  
Department of Merchant Shipping

cc Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Works  
Maritime Offices of the Department of Merchant Shipping abroad  
Inspectors of Cyprus ships  
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Diplomatic Missions and Honorary Consular Officers of the Republic of Cyprus  
Cyprus Shipping Council  
Cyprus Union of Shipowners  
Cyprus Bar Association  
Recognized and Authorized Classification Societies  
Trade Union SEK  
Trade Union PEO  
Trade Union DEOK