
2. As per M.S. Notice No.1 of 2013 dated 3.1.2013, all navigational officers assigned to serve on vessels fitted with ECDIS are required to undergo DGS approved ECDIS course, prior to obtaining the first or higher grader Certificate of Competency under STCW 2010 or prior to Revalidation of their Certificate of Competency under STCW 2010, in order to continue to qualify for sea service after 31.12.2016.

3. The Directorate, on review, has observed that there are instances where, an approved maritime training institute which has the approval for conduct of ECDIS course, vide the Circular mentioned in Para 1, have reportedly also conducted the IMO Model Course 1.27 [2012 edition of 5 days duration course], prior to the issue of the ECDIS Circular. It is also observed that the IMO Model Course 1.27 [2012 edition of 5 days duration] is fairly similar to the DGS approved ECDIS Course curriculum, and candidates who have undergone the said course would be required to repeat the curriculum in order to obtain the DGS approved ECDIS Certification.

4. In order to mitigate the issues of duplication of course and certification, and in the best interest of seafarers, it has now been decided that the Directorate General of Shipping shall accept and recognize such certification of ECDIS course, provided that,

(a) The institute which had conducted the 5 days programme of IMO Model Course 1.27 [2012 edition] was an approved entity/institute, prior to the issue of STCW Training Circular No.29 of 2012 dated 10.12.2012,

(b) Such institute had sought prior in-principle approval for ECDIS installation and intimated the Directorate, prior to conduct of the said stated IMO Model Course 1.27 [2012 edition]

(c) Such a course was certified and authenticated on the date of the commencement of the curriculum, by any of the classification society, which is an International Association of Classification Societies [IACS] Member.
(d) Such institute was later accorded with the approval to conduct the DGS approved ECDIS Course as per STCW 2010 Training Circular No.29 of 2012.

5. Provided that such entities /institutes desirous of having their certification recognized by the Competent Authority, shall furnish the requisite documentary evidences as stated in para 4 above, and provide the certified course curriculum for a gap analysis and acceptance by the Directorate. Such applications when received, shall be dealt with on a case to case basis, and the applicant shall be notified accordingly.

6. This is issued with the approval of the Director General of Shipping and Ex-Officio Additional Secretary to the Govt. of India, in exercise of the powers conferred in chapter IX Rule 47 of the Merchant Shipping [Standard of Training, Certification & Watch-keeping for Seafarers] Rules, 1998, as amended.

To,
1. All Maritime Training Institutes
2. The Principal Officers, MMD, Mumbai / Chennai / Kolkata / Kochi / Kandla
3. The Shipping Master, Mumbai / Kolkata / Chennai
4. INDOS Cell, Nav Bhavan Building, Mumbai -1
5. Nautical Branch
6. Engineering Branch
7. INS/ FOSMA/ MASSA /ICCSA / MUI
8. Management Representative [QMS], EAC Branch, DGS
9. Computer Cell with a request to upload in the website.
10. Hindi Cell
11. E-Governance Cell
12. Guard File
13. Sr.PS to DG[S] for information