

The Role of the Master

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S.T.C.W.

What's in a name?

*Standards of Training, Certification and
Watchkeeping for Seafarers (1978)*

*Seafarers' Training, Certification and
Watchkeeping (1995)*

*(I recall a previous name, perhaps erroneously: Standards of
Training and Certification for Watchkeepers)*

STCW and Revisions

- 1978 - Convention signed 7 July 1978
- 1984 - entered into force
- 1995 - significant amendments
 - Port State control
 - IMO Oversight of Standards
 - Familiarization training and basic safety training
 - Foreign seafarers required to meet the standards of flag state
 - Rest periods
- 2010 - Manila Amendments June 2010
 - 2012 - entered into force 1st January
 - 2017 - Transition period until 1st January
 - No amendments for Management Training for Masters



***I'M FINE...
REALLY, I'M FINE !!***

S. T. C. W

(some) Ancillary Courses

- Global Maritime Distress Safety System
- Automatic Radar Plotting Aid
- Electronic Chart Display and Information System
- Simulated Electronic Navigation
- Marine Emergency Duties (named differently by Flag States)
- Specific trade and ship type courses

ISM Code and SMS

- *Company's and ship's personnel must comply with stated aspects of the documents.*
- *Non-compliance - punishable*
 - *Can be used against a Master or Company*

REQUIRED FOR COMMAND

IMO approved certification

Appointed by the Company

Responsible for all aspects of Safety and Operations of the vessel.

Insufficient training in Environmental, Business, Criminal, Human Relations, Health and Welfare, Public Relations, and many other Laws, Regulations and guidelines.

Questions arising

- Does the Master receive sufficient training to meet role?
- Is there an opportunity for a non-deck department person to be given command?
- Are STCW training standards sufficiently geared towards the authority, responsibility and liability of Command?

Conclusions

- STCW needs review and overhaul
- STCW Course content needs review and modification to meet the needs of command
- The Commanding Officer must have the authority, sufficient properly trained personnel and properly maintained equipment to carry out the role of command

Think about it...

**Who do you want
in command of
your ship?**