

MARINE NOTICE
NO 10 OF 2002

**ATTENTION: ALL FISHING VESSEL OWNERS, SKIPPERS,
MATES AND FISHERMEN**

MANNING OF FISHING VESSELS

An investigation into a recent fishing vessel incident found that the person on watch at the time of the incident did not hold a certificate of competency or have any formal training in the use of navigational equipment.

The fishing vessel did not carry the correct number of qualified Deck Officers as required by the Fishing Vessels (Certification of Deck Officers and Engineer Officers) Regulations 1988 (S.I. No. 289 of 1988), as amended, the requirements of which are set out in Appendices I and II attached.

All fishing vessel owners and skippers are reminded that they are required to ensure that their vessels are correctly manned and that the proper number of certificated officers are carried for the appropriate fishing area, i.e. Limited or Unlimited.

Skippers are reminded that navigational watchkeeping duties must be carried out by properly qualified personnel at all times.

All watchkeeping personnel must be thoroughly familiar with all the electronic equipment they are expected to use.

The attention of fishing vessel owners and skippers is drawn to the following information, concerning the Fishing Vessels (Certification of Deck Officers and Engineer Officers) Regulations 1988, as amended.

1. The Regulations

The Fishing Vessels (Certification of Deck Officers and Engineer Officers) Regulations 1988, as amended, require:

- (a) those fishing vessels of 17 metres in length and over, which operate in the Limited Area, and all fishing vessels that operate in the Unlimited Area to carry a specified number of deck officers, certificated in accordance with the Regulations. Existing certificates of competency issued under section 414 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1894, will be treated as equivalent to specified certificates of competency issued under these Regulations.

- (b) all fishing vessels of 750 kilowatt or more engine power to carry a specified number of engineer officers certificated in accordance with the Regulations.

2. Certificates of Competency (Deck Officer)

The Regulations require fishing vessels registered in the State (and Government fishery research vessels) to be manned by duly certificated Deck Officers and set out the minimum number of Deck Officers to be carried determined by the length of the vessel and by the area (Limited or Unlimited) in which the vessel operates.

Every ship registered in the State, being a sea-going fishing vessel or Government fishery research vessel:

- (a) which operates in the Unlimited area, or
- (b) which being of 17 metres length or more, operates in the Limited area, when going to sea,

shall carry such number of qualified Deck Officers as set out in Appendix 1.

Existing Deck Officer certificates of competency issued under section 414 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1894, are to be treated as equivalent to specified certificates of competency issued under the Regulations.

3. Certificates of Competency (Engineer Officer)

The Regulations require fishing vessels registered in the State of 750 kilowatt registered power or more to be manned by duly certificated Engineer Officers, and lay down the minimum number of Engineer Officers and the level of their certificates related to the registered power in kilowatts (see Appendix II). The Regulations also specify that only duly certificated persons shall be employed in capacities, which require certificates.

4. Additional Information

The standards of competency which must be attained before a candidate will be issued with a certificate of competency under the Regulations together with examination syllabuses, specimen papers and requirements are set out in the Department of the Marine & Natural Resources publications entitled:

- (1) Examination for Certificates of Competency for Fishing Vessels:
Engineer Officer Requirements, Syllabuses and Specimen Papers

And

- (2) Examination for Certificates of Competency for Fishing Vessels;
Deck Officer Requirements, Syllabuses and Specimen Papers.

Copies of the Regulations and of the Department of the Marine & Natural Resources publications may be obtained from the Government Publications Sale Office, Sun Alliance House, Molesworth Street, Dublin 2.

5. Marine Notice No. 4 of 1995 is hereby withdrawn as this notice supersedes it.

Secretary-General
Department of the Marine and
Natural Resources
Dublin 2

13th May 2002

<p>Any enquiries concerning Marine Notices should be addressed to: Maritime Safety Division Tel: 01-6199358 Fax: 01-6620774 email: marine.notices@marine.gov.ie</p>

Appendix 1

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3					Column 4
Fishing Area	Description of Length of Vessel	Minimum Number of Qualified Deck Officers to be Carried on Vessel					Number of other Officers to be carried on Vessel
		Skipper Full	2 nd Hand Full	Skipper Limited	2 nd Hand Limited	2 nd Hand Special	
Unlimited	≥ 100 Metres	1	3 or	3			3 Officers required in addition to Skipper
Unlimited	50 Metres to <100 Metres	1	2 or	2			2 Officers required in addition to Skipper
Unlimited	< 50 Metres	1	1 or	1			1 Officer required in addition to Skipper
Limited	≥100 Metres	1	1or	1	1 or	1	2 Officers required in addition to Skipper
Limited	50 Metres to <100 Metres			1	2 or	2	2 Officers required in addition to Skipper
Limited	24 Metres to <50 Metres			1	1 or	1	1 Officer required in addition to Skipper
Limited	17 Metres to <24 Metres					1	

Appendix 2

COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2		
Registered Power (Kilowatts)	Required Classes of Certificate		
	Chief Engineer Officer	Senior Engineer Officer	Third Engineer Officer
3,000 and over	1	2	3
2,000 or more but under 3,000	1	3	—
750 or more but under 2,000	2	3	—