



# AUSTRALIAN MARITIME OFFICERS UNION

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## Marine Orders Part 3 Seagoing Qualifications

**A**MSA has now completed the consultation process and new Marine Orders are being drafted. It is anticipated that Marine Orders as far as it affects Masters and Mates will come into effect in July 2004.

The AMOU has been involved in the process throughout and is satisfied that standards have been maintained and where necessary enhanced.

Information contained in this article is not taken from official AMSA documents however in substance it closely reflects what will be in the revised Marine Orders.

Other changes will be made in the main body of Marine Orders but they are mainly administrative and will have little effect on certificate holders.

Any queries should be addressed to Fred Ross at [fred@amou.com.au](mailto:fred@amou.com.au)

< "Means less than"

> "Means greater than"

### The following has been achieved

- (1) AMSA certificates are aligned with STCW 95.
- (2) Addressed all known problems with the non-recognition of AMSA qualifications overseas;
- (3) The ability for holders of current Class 2 certificates to acquire unlimited tonnage certificates, whilst maintaining standards;
- (4) The ability for holders of current State and Territory certificates to enter the AMSA STCW certificate system, whilst maintaining standards.
- (5) Marine Orders Part 3 will be restructured to make it more convenient to use.

### The following changes will be made to the current certificates:

#### **MASTER CLASS ONE**

This certificate is to be named "Master." (i.e. Apart from the change in name no other change.)

#### **MASTER CLASS TWO**

This certificate will be reissued and named to "Master less than 3000 Gt" with no geographical limitations.

Holders of Master less than 3000 GT (Master Class Two) will be able to apply to upgrade to a Masters certificate when they have:

- (1) Gained an additional twelve months sea-time holding a Master less than 3000 GT on vessels 3000 GT or over which can be served as watch-keeper or
- (2) Served as Master on vessels of greater than 1500 GT for twelve months.

In both cases prior to the issue of the Masters certificate the applicant must attend a refresher course of approximately two days to gain knowledge of the peculiarities of larger vessels.

It should be noted that the current Master Class One and Master Class Two have the same academic requirements with the only difference being the size of tonnage where the sea time was served.

#### **CHIEF MATE CLASS ONE**

This certificate is to be named "Chief Mate". (i.e. Apart from the change in name, no other change.)

#### **CHIEF MATE CLASS TWO**

This certificate will be reissued and named "Chief Mate less than 3000 GT" with no geographical limitations.

Holders of "Chief Mate less than 3000 GT" (Chief Mate Class Two) will be able to apply to upgrade to a Chief Mate certificate when they have:

- (1) Gained an additional twelve months sea-time holding a "Chief Mate less than 3000 GT" on vessels 3000 GT or over which can be served as watch-keeper or
- (2) Served as Chief Mate holding a "Chief Mate less than 3000 GT" on vessels of greater than 1500 GT for twelve months.

In both cases prior to the issue of the Chief Mate certificate the applicant will have to attend

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a refresher course of approximately two days to gain knowledge of the peculiarities of larger vessels.

It should be noted that the academic requirements for the issue of a Chief Mate Class One and Two Certificates are the same with the only difference being the size of tonnage where the sea time was served.

## **SECOND MATE**

Second Mate Class One and Two Certificates will be reissued and named "Deck Watch-Keeper" with no geographical or tonnage limitations.

For the issue of a Deck Watch Keepers certificate sea time must be served on vessels over 500 GT with the sea time required before a Deck Watch-Keeper can sit for a Chief Mate or Chief Mate less than 3000 GT is now 12 months rather than the current 18 months although the total sea time required between Deck Watch-keeper and Master or Master less than 3000 GT remains at 36 months.

It should be noted that the academic requirements for the issue of a Second Mate Class One or Two Certificate is the same with the only difference being the size of tonnage on which the sea time was served.

The six months understudy time for the cadets is working well but the Integrated Ratings are experiencing some difficulties. That is whilst they meet the academic standards they lack practical experience.

It is the intention of the AMOU to discuss this with the Employers and AMSA to achieve an outcome that overcomes this problem.

This will be done in consultation with members who recently acquired their Second Mates certificate, with the required experience possibly being gained during the understudy period or by sailing after obtaining their certificate as understudy to the Chief Mate for a short period.

## **MASTER LESS THAN 500 GT**

This is a new certificate and will be named to "Master less than 500 GT" with no geographical limitations.

It will entitle the certificate holder to be;

- (1) Master or Chief Mate on vessels of less than 500 GT in any operating area.
- (2) Subject to additional sea time on vessels over 500 GT and an endorsement by AMSA; Master or Chief Mate on vessels

of less than 3000 GT on near coastal voyages.

- (3) Watch-keeper on vessels of less than 3000 GT in any operating area.

This certificate will replace the Master Class 3 (Issued by AMSA) and for current holders of the Master Class 3 (Issued by AMSA) to convert to a Master Less than 500 GT will require an AMSA oral examination.

For certificate holders who do not want to apply for a "Master Less Than 500 GT" then the Master Class 3 (Issued by AMSA) will continue to be revalidated for the life of the holder.

Master Class 3 is a State Certificate and where it has been taught to the academic level of Second Mate, has additional Command Modules and the sea time meets AMSA requirements an endorsement is issued by AMSA. As from the end of 2004 no further AMSA endorsements will be issued.

A holder of a "Master less than 500 GT" will be able to progress to higher certificates providing they meet the same sea service requirements and academic standards as other candidates.

## **CHIEF MATE LESS THAN 500 GT**

This is a new certificate and will be named to "Chief Mate less than 500Gt" with no geographical limitations.

It will entitle the certificate holder to be;

- (1) Chief Mate or Watch Keeper on vessels of less than 500 GT in any operating area.
- (2) Master on vessels of less than 500 GT on near coastal voyages.
- (3) Subject to additional sea time on vessels over 500 GT and endorsement by AMSA; Chief Mate on vessels of less than 3000 GT on near coastal voyages.
- (4) Watch-Keeper on vessels of less than 3000 GT in near coastal voyages.

This certificate will replace the Master Class 4 (Issued by AMSA) and for current holders of the Master Class 4 (Issued by AMSA) to convert to a Ch Mate Less than 500 GT will require an AMSA oral examination.

For certificate holders who do not want to apply for a "Ch Mate Less Than 500 GT" then the Ch Mate Class 4 (Issued by AMSA) will continue to be revalidated for the life of the holder.

Ch Mate Class 4 is a State Certificate and where it has been taught to the academic levels

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determined by AMSA and the sea time meets AMSA requirements an endorsement is issued by AMSA.

As from the end of 2004 no further AMSA endorsements will be issued.

A holder of a "Chief Mate less than 500 Gt" will be able to progress to higher certificates providing they meet the same sea service requirements and academic standards as other candidates.

## **SECTION D SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR DECK OFFICERS**

### **22 Watch-Keeping**

A person is only qualified to take charge from part of a navigational watch if that person holds:

- (a) a current certificate of medical fitness for the deck department; and
- (b) a certificate of competency or certificate of recognition permitting the Watch Keeping duties in accordance with 23; and
- (c) a current GMDSS General Operators Certificate.

### **23 Grades of certificates**

#### *23.1 Duties permitted by grades of certificates.*

Subject to any specific requirements of this Part, 14 a certificate of competency or certificate of recognition of a grade specified in column 1 of Table 1 permits the holder to carry out the duties listed opposite that grade in column 2 of Table 1.

#### **Table 1**

Column 1 Grade of certificate.

Column 2 Duties permitted.

##### *Master*

Master, Chief Mate or Watch-Keeper on ships of any gross tonnage in any operating area.

##### *Master (<3000 GT)*

Master or Chief Mate on ships of less than 3000 GT in any operating area Watch-Keeper on ships of any gross tonnage in any operating area.

##### *Master (<500 GT)*

Master or Chief Mate on ships of less than 500 GT in any operating area Subject to endorsement Master or Chief Mate on ships of less than 3000 GT on near coastal voyages. Watch-Keeper on ships of less than 3000 GT in any operating area.

##### *Chief Mate*

Chief Mate or Watch-Keeper on ships of any

gross tonnage in any operating area.

Column 1 Grade of certificate.

Column 2 Duties permitted.

##### *Chief Mate (<3000 GT)*

Chief Mate on ships of less than 3000 GT in any operating area Watch-Keeper on ships of any gross tonnage in any operating area.

##### *Chief Mate (<500 GT)*

Chief Mate or Watch-Keeper on ships of less than 500 GT in any operating area Master on ships of less than 500 GT on near coastal voyages Subject to endorsement Ch Mate on ships of less than 3000 GT on near coastal voyages Watch-Keeper on ships of less than 3000 GT on near coastal voyages.

##### *Watch-Keeper (Deck)*

Watch-Keeper on ships of any gross tonnage in any operating area.

#### *23.2 Transitional*

The holder of a certificate of competency or certificate of recognition of a grade specified in column 1 of Table 2 and issued under Marine Orders, Part 3, Issue 5 is deemed to be the holder of a certificate of the grade listed opposite that certificate in column 2 of Table 2.

#### **Table 2**

Column 1 Grade of certificate issued under Issue 5.

Column 2 Grade of certificate deemed to be held.

##### Master Class 1

Master

Master Class 1 issued under 1.8(b) of Appendix 2 of Issue 5

Master

Master Class 1 issued under 1.8(a) of Appendix 2 of Issue 5

Master (<3000 GT)

##### Master Class 2

Master (<3000 GT)

##### Master Class 3 (Issued by AMSA)

Master (<500 GT)

##### Chief Mate Class 1

Chief Mate

##### Chief Mate Class 2

Chief Mate (<3000 GT)

##### Second Mate Class 1

Watch-Keeper (Deck)

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Second Mate Class 2  
Watch-Keeper (Deck)

**24 Eligibility for certificates**

**24.1 Master**

24.1.1 Subject to 24.1.2, to be eligible for the issue of a certificate of competency as Master, a person must:

- (a) hold a certificate as Master (<3000 GT), Chief Mate, or Chief Mate (<3000 GT), which need not be current, or such other certificate as the Manager considers to be equivalent;
- (b) have completed at least 36 months qualifying service in charge of a navigation watch on ships 500 GT or over while holding a certificate as Master (<3000 GT), Chief Mate, Chief Mate (<3000 GT), Watch-Keeper (Deck), or such other certificate as the Manager considers to be equivalent, with the following conditions:
  - (i) at least 24 months must have been served on trading ships of 3000 GT or over, at least 6 months of which must have been served while holding a certificate as Master (<3000 GT), Chief Mate, or Chief Mate (<3000 GT), or such other certificate as the Manager considers to be equivalent;
  - (ii) at least 24 months must have been served on ships on voyages of 24 hours or more duration;
  - (iii) at least 12 months (including the time specified in (i)) must have been served while holding a certificate as Master (< 3000 GT), Chief Mate, or Chief Mate (< 3000 GT), or such other certificate as the Manager considers to be equivalent;
- (c) have satisfactorily completed an appropriate approved course of study that:
  - (i) at least meets the standards specified in tables A-II/1 and A-II/2 of the STCW Code and includes management training and knowledge of the International Safety Management Code; and
  - (ii) includes practical training in:
    - (A) command navigation, ARPA, radar, electronic navigation, and Bridge Resource Management;

(B) medical training that meets the standard of competence specified in section A-VI/4 paragraphs 4 to 6 of the STCW Code; and

(C) advanced fire fighting in accordance with the provisions of section A-VI/3 of the STCW Code.

- (d) hold the following certificates:
  - (i) certificate of proficiency in survival craft and rescue boats other than fast rescue boats, issued or recognised under this Part;
  - (ii) current GMDSS General Operators Certificate;
  - (iii) current certificate of medical fitness for service in the deck department; and
- (e) have passed an oral examination in appropriate operational knowledge conducted by an approved examiner.

24.1.2 A person wishing to upgrade from Master (<3000 GT) to Master may, instead of meeting the requirements in 24.1.1(b)(i) and (e), meet the following:

- (a) qualifying sea service while holding a certificate as Master (<3000 GT) of:
  - (i) 12 months as master on ships >1500 GT; or
  - (ii) 12 months as watch-Keeper on ships >3000 GT; or
  - (iii) a combination of (i) and (ii); and
- (b) completion of an approved upgrade course for ships >3000 GT or;

**24.2 Master (Less than 3000 GT)**

To be eligible for issue of a certificate of competency as Master (< 3000 GT), a person must:

- (a) hold a certificate as Chief Mate, or Chief Mate (< 3000 GT), which need not be current, or such other certificate as the Manager considers to be equivalent;
- (b) have completed at least 36 months qualifying service in charge of a navigation watch on ships 500 GT or over while holding a certificate as Master (< 500 GT), Chief Mate, Chief Mate (<3000 GT),

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- Watch-Keeper (Deck), or such other certificate as the Manager considers to be equivalent, with the following conditions:
- (i) at least 24 months must have been served on trading ships;
  - (ii) at least 24 months must have been served on ships on voyages of 24 hours or more duration;
  - (iii) at least 12 months must have been served while holding a certificate as Chief Mate, or Chief Mate (< 3000 GT), or such other certificate as the Manager considers to be equivalent;
- (c) have satisfactorily completed an appropriate approved course of study that:
- (i) at least meets the standards specified in tables A-II/1 and A-II/2 of the STCW Code and includes management training and knowledge of the International Safety Management Code; and
  - (ii) includes practical training in:
    - (A) command navigation, ARPA, radar, electronic navigation, and Bridge Resource Management;
    - (B) medical training that meets the standard of competence specified in section A-VI/4 paragraphs 4 to 6 of the STCW Code; and
    - (C) advanced fire fighting in accordance with the provisions of section A-VI/3 of the STCW Code;
- (d) hold the following certificates:
- (i) certificate of proficiency in survival craft and rescue boats other than fast rescue boats, issued or recognised under this Part;
  - (ii) current GMDSS General Operators Certificate;
  - (iii) current certificate of medical fitness for service in the deck department; and
- (e) have passed an oral examination in appropriate operational knowledge conducted by an approved examiner.
- 24.3 Master (Less than 500 GT)  
To be eligible for issue of a certificate of competency as Master (< 500 GT), a person must:
- (a) be 20 years of age or more;
  - (b) hold a certificate as Chief Mate (<500 GT) or a USL or NSCV Part D certificate of competency as unrestricted Master Class 3, or such other certificate as the Manager considers to be equivalent;
  - (c) have completed at least 36 months qualifying service as an officer in charge of a navigation watch on ships over 80 GT, while holding a certificate as Chief Mate (<500 GT) or a valid USL or NSCV Part D certificate of competency as unrestricted Master Class 3, Master Class 4 or Master Class 5, with the following conditions:
    - (i) if at least 12 months has been served as Chief Mate or Master, then the required sea service can be reduced to not less than 24 months;
    - (ii) at least 24 months must have been served on trading ships on voyages of 24 hours or more duration;
    - (iii) at least 12 months must have been served while holding a certificate as Chief Mate (<500 GT) or a valid USL or NSCV Part D certificate as Master Class 3 or Master Class 4.
    - (iv) for an additional limitation as Chief Mate on ships of less than 3000 GT on near coastal voyages, at least 6 months must have been served on trading ships of 500 Gt and over;
    - (v) for an additional limitation as Master on ships of less than 3000 GT on near coastal voyages, at least 24 months must have been served on trading ships of 500 Gt and over;
  - (d) have satisfactorily completed an appropriate approved course of study that:
    - (i) at least meets the standards specified in section A-II/1 of the STCW Code, plus approved modules in command navigation, shipmasters business and management from section A-II/2; and
    - (ii) includes practical training in:
      - (A) Bridge Resource Management;
      - (B) advanced fire fighting in accordance with the provisions of section A-VI/3 of the STCW Code; and
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- (C) medical training that meets the standard of competence specified in section A-VI/4-1 and A-VI/4-2 of the STCW Code;
- (e) hold the following certificates:
  - (i) certificate of proficiency in survival craft and rescue boats other than fast rescue boats, issued or recognised under this Part;
  - (ii) current GMDSS General Operators Certificate;
  - (iii) current certificate of medical fitness for service in the deck department; and
- (f) have passed an oral examination in appropriate operational knowledge conducted by an approved examiner.

#### 24.4 Chief Mate

24.4.1 Subject to 24.4.2, to be eligible for issue of a certificate of competency as Chief Mate, a person must:

- (a) hold a certificate as Master (<3000 GT), Chief Mate (<3000 GT), or Watch-Keeper (Deck), which need not be current, or such other certificate as the Manager considers to be equivalent;
- (b) have completed at least 12 months qualifying service in charge of a navigation watch on trading ships 3000 GT or over:
  - (i) while holding a certificate referred to in (a); and
  - (ii) on ships on voyages of 24 hours or more duration;
- (c) have satisfactorily completed an appropriate approved course of study that:
  - (i) at least meets the standards specified in tables A-II/1 and A-II/2 of the STCW Code and includes management training and knowledge of the International Safety Management Code; and
  - (ii) includes practical training in:
    - (A) command navigation, ARPA, radar, electronic navigation and Bridge Resource Management;
    - (B) medical training that meets the standard of competence specified in section A-VI/4 paragraphs 4 to 6 of the STCW Code;

(C) advanced fire fighting in accordance with the provisions of section AVI/3 of the STCW Code;

(D) hold the following certificates:

- (i) certificate of proficiency in survival craft and rescue boats other than fast rescue boats issued or recognised under this part;
- (ii) current GMDSS General Operators Certificate;
- (iii) current certificate of medical fitness for service in the deck department; and
- (e) have passed an oral examination in appropriate operational knowledge conducted by an approved examiner.

24.4.2 A person wishing to upgrade from Chief Mate (<3000 GT) to Chief Mate may, instead of meeting the requirements in 24.4.1(b) and (e) meet the following:

- (a) qualifying sea service, which must be on ships on voyages of 24 hours or more duration, while holding a certificate as Chief Mate (<3000 GT) of:
  - (i) 12 months as chief mate on ships >1500 GT; or
  - (ii) 6 months as watch-keeper on ships >3000 GT; or
  - (iii) a proportional combination of (i) and (ii); and
- (b) completion of an approved upgrade course for ships >3000 GT.

#### 24.5 Chief Mate (less than 3000 GT)

To be eligible for issue of a certificate of competency as Chief Mate (<3000 GT), a person must:

- (a) hold a certificate as Master (<500 GT) or Watch Keeper (Deck), which need not be current, or such other certificate as the Manager considers to be equivalent;
- (b) have completed at least 12 months qualifying service in charge of a navigation watch on trading ships 500 GT or over:
  - (i) while holding a certificate referred to in (a); and
  - (ii) on ships on voyages of 24 hours or more duration;

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- (c) have satisfactorily completed an appropriate approved course of study that:
    - (i) at least meets the standards specified in tables A-II/1 and A-II/2 of the STCW Code and includes management training and knowledge of the International Safety Management Code; and
    - (ii) includes practical training in:
      - (A) command navigation, ARPA, radar, electronic navigation and Bridge Resource Management;
      - (B) medical training that meets the standard of competence specified in section A-VI/4 paragraphs 4 to 6 of the STCW Code;
      - (C) advanced fire fighting in accordance with the provisions of section AVI/3 of the STCW Code;
  - (d) hold the following certificates:
    - (i) certificate of proficiency in survival craft and rescue boats other than fast rescue boats issued or recognised under this Part;
    - (ii) current GMDSS General Operators Certificate;
    - (iii) current certificate of medical fitness for service in the deck department; and
  - (e) have passed an oral examination in appropriate operational knowledge conducted by an approved examiner.
- (i) at least 24 months must have been served as master or an officer in charge of a navigational watch;
  - (ii) at least 12 months must have been served on trading ships of 80 GT or over, on ships on voyages of 24 hours or more duration;
  - (iii) for an additional limitation as Chief Mate on ships of less than 3000 GT on near coastal voyages, at least 6 months must have been served on trading ships of 500 Gt and over;
- (c) have satisfactorily completed an approved course of study that:
    - (i) at least meets the standards specified in section A-II/1 and A-II/3 of the STCW Code;
    - (ii) contains approved modules in command navigation, shipmasters business and management specified in section A-II/2 of the STCW Code; and
    - (iii) includes practical training in:
      - (A) Bridge Resource Management;
      - (B) advanced fire fighting in accordance with the provisions of section AVI/3 of the STCW Code;
      - (C) medical training that meets the standard of competence specified in section A-VI/4 paragraphs 4 to 6 of the STCW Code;
  - (f) hold the following certificates:
    - (i) certificate of proficiency in survival craft and rescue boats other than fast rescue boats issued or recognised under this Part;
    - (ii) current GMDSS General Operators Certificate;
    - (iii) current certificate of medical fitness for service in the deck department; and
  - (g) have passed an oral examination in appropriate operational knowledge conducted by an approved examiner.

#### 24.6 Chief Mate (Less than 500 GT)

To be eligible for issue of a certificate of competency as Chief Mate (<500 GT), a person must:

- (a) be 20 years of age or more;
- (b) hold a valid USL or NSCV Part D certificate of competency as unrestricted Master Class 4, or such other certificate as the Manager considers to be equivalent;
- (c) have completed at least 36 months qualifying service as an officer in charge of a navigation watch on ships >20 GT, while holding a USL or NSCV Part D certificate of competency as unrestricted Master Class 4, Mate Class 4, or Master Class 5, with the following conditions:

- (i) certificate of proficiency in survival craft and rescue boats other than fast rescue boats issued or recognised under this Part;
  - (ii) current GMDSS General Operators Certificate;
  - (iii) current certificate of medical fitness for service in the deck department; and
- (g) have passed an oral examination in appropriate operational knowledge conducted by an approved examiner.

#### 24.7 Watch Keeper (Deck)

To be eligible for issue of a certificate of competency as Watch Keeper (Deck), a person must:

- (a) be 20 years of age or more;
- (b) have completed:
  - (i) an approved and monitored course for trainee deck officers of at least 18 months qualifying sea service, or
  - (ii) an approved and monitored course for integrated ratings with at least 24 months qualifying sea service as Integrated Rating, or
  - (iii) at least 36 months qualifying sea service;

(B) medical training that meets the standard of competence specified in section A-VI/4 paragraphs 4 to 6 of the STCW Code;

(C) advanced fire fighting in accordance with the provisions of section AVI/3 of the STCW Code;

- (e) hold the following certificates:
  - (i) certificate of proficiency in survival craft and rescue boats other than fast rescue boats;
  - (ii) current GMDSS General Operator's Certificate;
  - (iii) current certificate of medical fitness for service in the deck department, and;
- (f) have passed an oral examination in appropriate operational knowledge conducted by an approved examiner.

(c) have served the qualifying sea service specified in (b) on ships of 500 GT or over, with the following conditions:

- (i) at least 12 months must have been served on ships on voyages of 24 hours or more duration;
- (ii) at least 6 months must have been served as understudy of the officer in charge of a navigation watch on a trading ship or;

(d) have satisfactorily completed an appropriate approved course of study that:

- (i) at least meets the standards specified in table A-II/1 of the STCW Code; and
- (ii) includes practical training in:
  - (A) ARPA, radar, electronic navigation, and Bridge Resource Management;

**PROPOSED NEW CERTIFICATE STRUCTURE and CAREER PATH for DECK OFFICERS**

