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|  | STCW CIRC 1998-003 (Revised) | |
| | DEPARTMENT OF MARINE SERVICES AND MERCHANT SHIPPING (ADOMS) | |
| | Authenticity of Seafarer Documents | Ref STCW Reg 1/2 |

**Companies operating ships registered in Antigua and Barbuda,
Authorised Filing Agents and Crew Managers,
Ships registered in Antigua and Barbuda**

This Circular was first published in 1998. It was revised in 2012 and is republished under this new numbering scheme with only editorial changes.

1. Definition

Seafarer's Documents means the mandatory certificates held by a seafarer and issued by a certificate issuing Party to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers 1978 (as amended) (STCW) where the standards specified in the Convention have been met and on which basis the flag State Administration of Antigua and Barbuda will issue an Endorsement.

In particular, these are Certificates of Competency in accordance with STCW regulations II/1, II/2, II/3, III/1, III/2, III/3, III/6, IV/2 and VII/2, as well as Certificates in accordance with STCW regulations V/I-1, V/I-2, and VI/5.

2. Responsibilities Overview

The direct responsibilities for the Administration, the companies, filing agents and crewing companies are mainly derived from the STCW Convention and arise from:

- Regulation. I/9
- Regulation. I/10
- Regulation. I/14

3. Responsibilities derived from STCW Regulation I/9 and Regulation I/10

The maritime administration of Antigua and Barbuda recognises, like the IMO, that verification of the validity of Certificates of Competency and other documents issued to seafarers is essential to prevent unlawful practices associated with the issue of certificates. This Administration will hold responsible all companies, filing agents and crewing companies for the verification of the authenticity and validity of any seafarer's documents used for application of Flag State Endorsements.

Companies, filing agents and crewing companies are required to ensure that:

- Certificates of Competency and Endorsements produced by national certificate issuing Parties are counter-checked with the certificate issuing Party for authenticity and validity prior to submitting them to ADOMNS for recognition, and
- That evidence of this procedure is given by an official statement of the certificate-issuing Parties called the **verification**. This verification is an indispensable part of the application for recognition of any certificate by Antigua and Barbuda.

4. Control

Companies should instruct the recruiting crewing companies on the above requirements through written company procedures.

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