



Antigua and Barbuda  
Maritime Administration

STCW Circular  
No. 2017-001  
Rev 1  
12 April 2021

**SUBJECT: Training Requirements for Seafarers on Ships using Gases or other Low-Flashpoint Fuels.**

**REFERENCE:**

- a) *Antigua and Barbuda Merchant Shipping Act 2006, as amended*
- b) *International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978 Regulation V/3*
- c) *IMO Circular Letter No. 3508*

**TO:** Ship-owners, operators, masters and officers of Antigua and Barbuda flagged ships, and recognized organisations.

**1. PURPOSE**

This Circular provides information on the requirements in June 2015 by the Maritime Safety Committee of the International Maritime Organization on its 95<sup>th</sup> session where it adopted the “International Code of Safety for Ships Using Gases or Other Low-Flashpoint Fuels” (IGF Code), which entered into force on 1 January 2017.

**2. APPLICATION**

This Circular applies to all Antigua and Barbuda flagged ships.

**3. BACKGROUND**

The Antigua and Barbuda Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping (ADOMS) wishes to inform all parties concerned about training requirements for seafarers on ships using gases or other low-flashpoint fuels.

In June 2015, the Maritime Safety Committee of the International Maritime Organization on its 95<sup>th</sup> session adopted the “International Code of Safety for Ships Using Gases or Other Low-Flashpoint Fuels” (IGF Code), which entered into force on 1 January 2017. Chapter 19 of the IGF Code requires companies to ensure that: *“seafarers on board ships using gases or other low-flashpoint fuels shall have completed training to attain the abilities that are appropriate to the capacity to be filled and duties and responsibilities to be taken up, taking into account the provisions given in the STCW Convention and Code, as amended.”*

Accordingly, a new regulation (V/3) as well as a new section (A-V/3) was added to chapter V of the STCW Code and Convention 1978, as amended.

**4. OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. All Seafarers on ships subject to the IGF Code who are responsible for designated safety duties associated with the care, use or in emergency response to the fuel on board these ships shall hold a certificate in basic training for service on ships subject

to the IGF Code, in accordance with the provisions of section A-V/3, paragraph 1 of the STCW Code.

2. Holders of valid certificates of proficiency in accordance with regulation V/1-2, paragraph 2 (basic training in liquefied gas) or regulation V/1-2, paragraph 4 (advanced training in liquefied gas) can be considered as having met the requirements for a basic training for services on ships subject to the IGF Code.
3. Masters, engineer officers and all personnel with immediate responsibility for the care and use of fuels and fuel systems on ships subject to the IGF Code shall hold a certificate in advanced training for services on these ships.
4. Every candidate for a certificate in advanced IGF training shall hold a basic IGF training certificate and:
  1. have completed approved advanced training in accordance with section A-V/3 of the STCW Code
  2. have completed at least one month of approved seagoing service that includes a minimum of three bunkering operations on board ships subject to the IGF Code. Two of the three bunkering operations may be replaced by approved simulator training on bunkering operations as part of the above-mentioned training in accordance with section A-V/3.

**Issued by**

Antigua and Barbuda  
Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping  
(ADOMS) St. John's