

REGULATIONS COLUMN

BY SUSAN FALKNER

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MARINE EMERGENCY DUTIES - TRAINING COURSES (MED)

For crew members on commercial vessels, training in marine emergency duties (MED) is required by Transport Canada.

Over the years, there have been many modifications to the appellations and the requirements of these training sessions. To comply with the STCW Manila Convention of 2010, amendments to the MPR (Marine Personnel Regulations) will take effect on January 1st, 2017. As of this date, there will be new requirements for MED training courses.

These modifications have created a lot of questionning amongt people in the marine industry and I would like to clarify this for you in this tenth regulations review.

There will be major modifications coming into effect regarding the MED training sessions. **Refresher training sessions** will be required by Transport Canada every five (5) years.

This applies to holders of a Certificate of Competency (CoC) or endorsement and also to Canadian seafarers who work on vessels indicted in the following manner:

- ➤ Those who make Unlimited voyages or Near Coastal, Class 1 (outside of the Great Lakes and the Gulf of St. Lawrence). These seafarers **must conform** to the new requirements of refreshers trainings.
- ➤ Those who make Near Coastal, Class 1 (on the Great Lakes and the Gulf of St. Lawrence), Near Coastal, Class 2, or Sheltered Waters voyages. These seafarers **may choose** to comply to the new requirements, **although not required**.

I created an explanatory document about the different MED trainings ... You will find a brief description of the course, duration and prerequisites for the courses. For requirements of MED training on inland waters, please refer to the important notice at the bottom of the page to clarify the priority of the certificates.

I hope this will be useful to better understand and distinguish the differences amongst these trainings ... Enjoy reading!

Consult the document on our website *Available only in French





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To comply before the date of January 1st 2017, we strongly encourage seafarers to proceed as soon as possible. There are combined courses for sailors and officers at the Québec Maritime Institute. Unfortunately, the courses were quickly filled once they became available but you can refer to the website of the Institut Maritime du Québec for regular updates.

Calendar (available in French only): http://www.imq.qc.ca/formation-continue/calendrier.php

You are also invited to complete a notice of interest if there are no availabilities for the course you need. You will be put on a waiting list for the desired course.

Here are the course descriptions (available in French only):

Sailors: http://www.imq.qc.ca/formation-continue/015-ref-01.php

Officers: http://www.imq.qc.ca/formation-continue/015-ref-02.php

What to do once you have completed a refresher course?

The **new Certificates of Proficiency (CoP)** serve as proof a person has specific competencies that meet STCW Manila 2010 standards.

For example, on January 1, 2017, all persons on STCW vessels who perform MED, must hold a CoP.

To obtain a CoP, you must apply at any Transport Canada Marine Safety and Security (TCMSS) Examination Center (http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/regions.htm) and provide a Training Certificate you earned from a Recognized Institution (see list in TP 10655) in the past 5 years, that relates to that CoP.

If you completed the Approved Training Courses **more** than 5 years ago, you must have completed an Approved Refresher Training Courses **within the past 5 years**.

- ➤ You will find more details concerning these modifications in the **Ship Safety Bulletin 09/2015** "How to meet STCW Manila 2010 rules by January 2017"
- For further information, please refer to your closest Transport Canada office.

