

**Certification of Marine Engineers  
serving on board Icelandic Ships Act  
No. 113/1984, as amended**

**CHAPTER I  
Definitions**

Article 1

For the purpose of this Act the following definitions shall apply:

- a) "Chief engineer officer" means the highest-ranking person in a ship's engine-room.
- b) "Subordinate engineer officer" means any engineer officer subordinate to the chief engineer officer.
- c) "Marine engineer" means any person engaged to work as an engineer.
- d) "1 kilowatt (kW)" = 1.36 hp.
- e) "Month" means 30 days.
- f) "STCW" means the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978.

**Chapter II  
Numbers of Marine Engineers**

Article 2

The minimum number of marine engineers on Icelandic fishing vessels and coastguard vessels shall be as follows:

- a) On a ship with an engine rated at 75-220 kW (c. 101-300 h.p.) there shall be one engine attendant, who may be the same as the master on ships of up to 20 gross registered tons providing that he is the only qualified person in the crew and the time spent by the vessel at sea at one time is less than 24 hours, with the exception of the period from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> September, during which the period spent at sea at one time may be up to 36 hours.
- b) On a ship with an engine rated at 221-375 kW (c. 301-510 h.p.) there shall be a chief engineer officer if the period spent by the ship at sea is 30 hours or shorter.
- c) On a ship with an engine rated at 221-750 kW (c. 301-1021 h.p.) there shall be a chief engineer officer and one engine attendant.

- d) On a ship with an engine rated at 751-1500 kW (c. 1021-2040 h.p.) there shall be two engineer officers: a chief engineer officer and a second engineer.
- e) On a ship with an engine rated at 1501-1800 kW (c. 2041-2446 h.p.) there shall be three persons in the engine department two engineer officers, consisting of a chief engineer officer and a second engineer, and also an engine attendant or engine tender.
- f) On a ship with an engine rated at 1801 kW (c. 2447 h.p.) there shall be three engineer officers: a chief engineer officer, second engineer and subordinate engineers.

The number of marine engineer on Icelandic merchant vessels shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Crews of Icelandic Merchant Ships Act No. 59/1996, as amended [cf. document No. 9].

### **CHAPTER III** **Certification of Marine Engineers**

#### Article 3

- 1) Any person who has completed a **course in engine attendance** held by a college of marine engineering in accordance with regulations issued by the minister shall have the right to be an engine tender on a ship of 20 GRT with a main engine of less than 221 kW.  
**Certificate:** Engine Tender, VM).
- 2) Any person who has completed **Marine Engineering Grade 1** shall have the right to be an engine attendant on a ship with a main engine of less than 221 kW.  
**Certificate:** Engine Attendant VV).

On completion of 6 months' seagoing service on board a ship as an engine attendant, he shall acquire the right to be the chief engineer on a ship with a main engine of 375 kW or less.

**Certificate:** Engine Attendant (VVy).

- 3) Any person who has completed **Marine Engineering Grade 2** shall have the right to be an engine attendant on a ship with a main engine of less than 221 kW.  
**Certificate:** Engine Attendant (VV).

On completion of 5 months' seagoing service on board a ship as an engine attendant, he shall acquire the right to be the chief engineer on a ship with a main engine of less than 376 kW.

**Certificate:** Chief Engineer Officer (VVy).

On completion of 9 months' seagoing service on board a ship as an engine attendant, including at least 5 months on a ship with an engine of 401-750 kW, he shall acquire the right to be the chief engineer on a ship with a main engine of 750 kW and less.

**Certificate:** Marine Engineer III (VS III).

- 4) Any person who has completed **Marine Engineering Grade 3** shall have the right to be an engine attendant on a ship with a main engine of less than 221 kW.

**Certificate:** Engine Attendant (VV).

On completion of 4 months' seagoing service on board a ship as an engine attendant, he shall acquire the right to be the chief engineer on a ship with a main engine of 375 kW and less.

**Certificate:** Engine Attendant (VVy).

On completion of 6 months' seagoing service as an engine attendant on board a ship with an engine of 401-750 kW, he shall acquire the right to be the chief engineer on a ship with a main engine of 750 kW and less.

**Certificate:** Marine Engineer III (VS III).

On completion of 12 months' seagoing service as an engine attendant or marine engineer on board a ship with an engine of 401 kW or larger, he shall acquire the right to be the second engineer on a ship with a main engine of 1500 kW or less.

**Certificate:** Marine Engineer II (VS II).

On completion of 18 months' seagoing service as a marine engineer or engine attendant on board a ship, including at least 6 months of this seagoing service as an engine attendant and 12 months as a marine engineer, and with at least 3 months of the time as a marine engineer serving on board ships with an engine of 751 kW or larger, he shall acquire the right to be the chief engineer officer on a ship with a main engine of 1500 kW or less and subordinate engineer on a ship with unlimited propulsion power.

**Certificate:** Marine Engineer I (VS I).

- 5) Any person who has completed **Marine Engineering Grade 4**, together with the Journeyman's Certificate in an approved metalworking trade (i.e. who is a qualified marine engineer (full)) shall have the right to be second engineer officer on a ship with an engine of 1500 kW and subordinate engineer officer on a ship with unlimited propulsion power.

**Certificate:** Marine Engineer (full) IV (VF IV).

On completion of 6 months' seagoing service on board a ship with an engine of 751 kW or larger he shall acquire the right to be the chief engineer officer on a ship with an engine of 1500 kW or less.

**Certificate:** Marine Engineer I (VS I).

On completion of 12 months' seagoing service as a marine engineer on board a ship with an engine of 751 kW or larger, he shall acquire the right to be second engineer officer on a ship with unlimited propulsion power.

**Certificate:** Marine Engineer (full) III (VF III).

On completion of 24 months' seagoing service as an engine attendant on board a ship, including at least 12 months seagoing service as second engineer on a ship with an engine of 1501 kW or larger after qualifying for Certificate VF III, he shall acquire the right to be chief engineer officer on a ship with an engine of 3000 kW or less.

**Certificate:** Marine Engineer (full) II (VF II).

On completion of 36 months' seagoing service as an engine attendant or marine engineer on board a ship, including at least 12 months as second engineer officer on a ship with an

engine of 1501 kW or larger, he shall acquire the right to be the chief engineer officer on a ship with unlimited propulsion power.

**Certificate:** Marine Engineer (full) I (VF I).

- 6) In the evaluation of seagoing service for the purpose of certification, service relevant to the duties of engineers operating and maintaining machinery of sizes other than those specified above may be taken into account.

#### Article 4

The seagoing service of a marine engineer under Article 2 shall be the time during which he is registered on a ship and performs his functions, including the date of registration and date of discharge.

Work involving the service of an engine on board ship, and work in a machine workshop or in another comparable metalworking trade, and other legally registered work in the engine rooms of ships, may also be assessed as part of seagoing service under items 3 and 4 of Article 3. In no case, however, shall such time amount to more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the seagoing service assessed for certification.

### CHAPTER IV Older Marine Engineers' Certifications

#### Article 5

When this Act enters into force, the following shall apply to the certification of those marine engineers who have received certificates under older statutes:

- a) Those who have completed the shorter motor engineer course held by the Fisheries Association of Iceland or Marine Engineering Grade 1 before this Act enters into force shall enjoy the same rights as those who complete Marine Engineering Grade 2, providing that they meet the same requirements regarding seagoing service (STCW III/6).
- b) Those who have completed the longer course held by the Fisheries Association of Iceland or Marine Engineering Grade 2 before this Act enters into force shall enjoy the same rights as those who complete Marine Engineering Grade 3, providing that they meet the same requirements regarding seagoing service (STCW III/4).
- c) Those who have graduated from the Marine Engineering College of Iceland under Act No. 71/1936, but have not taken the examination in Electricity, shall enjoy the same rights as those who complete Marine Engineering Grade 3, providing that they meet the same requirements regarding seagoing service (STCW III/4).
- d) Those who have taken the final examination at the Marine Engineering College of Iceland under Act No. 71/1936, or older legislation, shall enjoy the same rights as those who complete Marine Engineering Grade 4 together with the Journeyman's Certificate in Mechanics, providing that they meet the same requirements regarding seagoing service (STCW III/2)

Marine engineers who, prior to the entry into force of this Act, enjoyed, or had the right to enjoy, more extensive rights than this Act confers upon them, shall retain those rights without abridgement providing that they meet the requirements regarding the retention of rights (*cf.* Article 9).

## **CHAPTER V** **The Manning Committee and Dispensations**

### Article 6

The Minister of Transport and Communications shall appoint a Manning Committee, which shall be authorized to:

- 1) determine permissible deviations from the provisions of this Act regarding the number of engine attendants and marine engineers according to circumstances, e.g. taking into account the technical equipment or the design or function of the ship; such deviations may involve larger or smaller numbers of men, and shall take into account, *inter alia*, the workload which may result from such a change;
- 2) permit a temporary change in the manning of a ship on a trial basis, subject to conditions set by the Committee. Such trial periods may not last longer than 6 months at a time;
- 3) to evaluate seagoing service gained in service relevant to the duties of engineers operating and maintaining machinery of a ship towards certification according to item 6 of Article 3 and paragraph 2 of Article 4.

The Committee shall seek the comments of the Icelandic Maritime Administration regarding items 1 and 2 of this Article.

### Article 7

The Manning Committee shall consist of equal numbers of representatives of the interested parties, according to nominations made by the relevant organizations. An alternate member shall be appointed for each principal member in the same way.

The Minister of Transport and Communications shall appoint the chairman and vice-chairman of the Committee without nomination, and at least one of them shall meet the general requirements made for appointment to the position of a judge

The Minister of Transport and Communications shall issue regulations setting further rules applying to the appointment of the Manning Committee and its methods of work.

### Article 8

If there is a shortage of personnel with appropriate marine engineering qualifications, then a person who does not meet the requirements of this Act may be granted a dispensation to work

on a particular ship, or on ships of a particular type, for a restricted period, which may not exceed 6 months at a time; the vessel operator or master involved shall apply for such a dispensation.

Dispensations under paragraph 1 shall be granted by a five-man committee appointed by the Minister of Transport to deal with such matters. The committee shall consist of two representatives nominated by representatives of the vessel operators, one nominated by the Icelandic Merchant Navy and Fishing Vessels' Officers Guild and one nominated by the Association of Icelandic Marine Engineers; the Minister shall appoint the chairman without nomination. The Minister shall set working rules for the Committee, and shall have them published in a satisfactory manner.

The Minister may issue regulations determining a fee for dispensations to be paid by the party receiving the dispensation; such fees shall go to a special fund for the purpose of making loans or grants to recipients of dispensations who embark on studies in maritime colleges aimed at gaining qualifications. Students at a college of marine engineering who work under dispensations in their vacations shall be entitled to have the fee refunded if they continue their studies in the next academic year, providing they submit a statement to this effect from the college concerned. Those who have completed all available college courses in preparation for the work involved shall be exempt from paying the fee.

## CHAPTER VI Certificates and Medical Certificates

### Article 9

Every Icelandic citizen, not less than 18 years of age, who meets the requirements of this Act regarding educational qualifications, seagoing service and medical fitness shall have the right to be issued with a certificate and pursue employment in accordance with it as part of an engineering watch on an Icelandic ship.

Nationals of other Member States of the European Economic Area shall also have this right, subject to further conditions to be set by the Minister through the issue of regulations; these conditions shall include necessary requirements regarding knowledge of spoken and written Icelandic.

<b>Qualification: regulation:</b>	<b>Certificate:</b>	<b>STCW</b>
Engine Tender (VM)	Engine Tender	
Engine Attendant (VV)	Engine Attendant and VM	STCW III/6
Engine Attendant (VVy)	Chief Engineer Officer; main machinery <375 kW and VV	STCW III/6
Marine Engineer III (VS III)	Chief Engineer Officer; main machinery <750 kW and VVy	STCW III/6
Marine Engineer II (VS II)	Second Engineer Officer; main engine <1500 kW and VS III	STCW III/6
Marine Engineer I (VS I)	Chief Engineer Officer; main engine <1500 kW and VF IV	STCW III/4
Marine Engineer (full) IV (VF IV)	Subord.Eng. Officer; main engine of unlim. prop. power and VS II	STCW III/4
Marine Engineer III (full) (VF III)	Second Engineer Officer; main engine of unlim. prop power and VS I	STCW III/2
Marine Engineer II (full) (VF II)	Chief Engineer Officer; <3000 kW engine and VF III	STCW III/3
Marine Engineer I (full) (VF I)	Chief Engineer Officer; main engine of unlimited propulsion power	STCW III/2

Certificates shall be issued by the Directorate of Customs in Reykjavík or by district commissioners outside Reykjavík and shall be written on special forms according to a model

drawn up by the Ministry of Transport and Communications. The certificates shall be issued in Icelandic and English, and shall be valid for five years at a time. The Minister of Transport and Communications shall set rules on the conditions for renewing certificates, covering, e.g. the maintenance of rights and health, taking into account the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as appropriate.

Holders of certificates shall carry them on their persons while in charge of ship's engines and shall produce them when requested to do so by a law enforcement officer.

Certificates issued under the STCW Convention shall be issued by the Icelandic Maritime Administration.

#### Article 10

In order for a marine engineer to acquire the right of employment under this Act, he shall be required to demonstrate by means of a medical certificate that he is capable in terms of health of working as such.

The Minister of Transport and Communications shall issue regulations stating the conditions applying to the sight, hearing and health of marine engineers.

#### Article 11

Any person who is not willing to comply with a ruling by a commissioner of customs on the issue of a certificate may refer the matter to the Ministry of Transport and Communications. Doing so shall not abridge his right to seek a court ruling on the matter.

#### Article 12

After receiving the comments of the Association of Icelandic Marine Engineers and Marine Engineering College of Iceland, the Ministry of Transport and Communications may authorize the issue of the appropriate certificates to the nationals of states outside the European Economic Area who have completed studies as marine engineers at an Icelandic college or a comparable college overseas, providing they meet other requirements.

In the same way, after receiving the comments of the Association of Icelandic Marine Engineers and the Marine Engineering College of Iceland , the Ministry of Transport and Communications may authorize the issue of the appropriate certificates to those Icelandic nationals who have completed studies as marine engineers at colleges overseas, providing they meet other requirements.

### **CHAPTER VII Miscellaneous Provisions**

#### Article 13

When calculating the power of ships' engines, the rules set by the Minister after he has received the proposals of the Icelandic Maritime Administration shall be observed.

### **CHAPTER VIII Penalties and Commencement**

#### Article 14

Violations of this Act shall be punished by fines unless heavier penalties are prescribed under other statutes. The fines shall be paid to the Treasury.

Procedure in cases involving violations of this Act shall be the same as that in criminal cases.

#### Article 15

This Act shall enter into force immediately.