



**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS, MARINE AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES**

**Marine Notice No. 23 of 2005**

*To all Owners, Operators, Masters and crew of sea-going Passengers Ships, to the  
National Maritime College, National Fishery Training Centres, Approved Training  
Providers and to all Seafarers*

**EXAMINATION PROCEDURES FOR ENGINEER OFFICERS IN THE  
MERCANTILE MARINE**

The Examiner of Engineers wishes to bring the following to the attention of candidates for Engineer Officer examinations:

1. Some candidates for Engineering Knowledge General Examinations are not performing adequately in, or are choosing to ignore, the Electrical or Naval Architecture sections of this examination paper. Instead they have been relying on gaining sufficient marks in Section I of the paper to pass the examination.

From September 2005 the following marking system will apply in order to pass this paper.

The overall pass mark of 50% will be retained and;

At least 40% must be obtained in each section of the paper.

2. The Engineer Cadet Training Scheme consists of an approved full time college training course, such as that offered by the National Maritime College of Ireland Ordinary Degree in Marine Engineering, followed by at least nine months of approved seatime. This programme of training complies with STCW 95 Regulation III/1, which requires approved education and training of at least 30 months in addition to any seatime.

A number of candidates, whilst successfully completing the HETAC Ordinary Degree, are not attending the College regularly and therefore it may be considered that those candidates are not meeting the requirement for 30 months of education and training.

From September 2005 all candidates for Engineer Officer Certificates of Competency may be required to produce documentary evidence of satisfactory attendance at college. An attendance rate of at least 90% is expected. Documentary evidence may be in the form of College attendance records or a letter from a Senior Lecturer verifying satisfactory attendance throughout the entire course. Any periods of non-attendance are to be covered by an explanatory note, doctors certificate etc. Poor College attendance may result in additional seatime being imposed on the candidate.

3. Candidates for Second and Chief Engineer (STCW III/3 and III/2) written and oral examination in the professional subjects - Engineering Knowledge - will be required to show proof of attendance on an appropriate course of study at an approved Nautical College prior to being admitted for examination. Candidates will be required to show a minimum attendance of six weeks, which need not be consecutive, within the previous five years. This will apply for each Certificate of Competency. Proof of attendance leading to the award of one certificate will not be accepted for the next grade of certificate.

Attendance records will not be required for those seeking a Certificate of Competency for which the examination is oral only.

4. Candidates presenting themselves for oral examinations are advised to prepare themselves thoroughly. The examination is a formal assessment of the candidates technical ability, knowledge and, particularly with regard to Second and Chief Engineer examinations, is an assessment of the candidates managerial skills and presentation.
5. The changes in this Marine Notice will be incorporated into new and revised examination directions with a publication date of January 2006.

Director General  
Maritime Safety Directorate  
Department of Communications, Marine  
and Natural Resources  
Dublin 2.

15<sup>th</sup> September 2005

For any technical assistance in relation to this Marine Notice please contact  
The Marine Surveyors' Office, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2 +353 1 678 3400  
For information in relation to technical specification/type approval of radio equipment contact the  
Radio Surveyors +353 1 678 2363/2364/2365/2367.  
For general enquiries please contact the Maritime Safety Division at +353-1-678 3418  
Any enquiries concerning Marine Notices should be addressed to:  
Maritime Safety Directorate, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2  
Email: [marine.notices@dcmnr.gov.ie](mailto:marine.notices@dcmnr.gov.ie)  
Or visit us at: [www.dcmnr.ie](http://www.dcmnr.ie)