

COMMENTARY ON CHAPTER V:

SPECIAL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR PERSONNEL ON CERTAIN TYPES OF SHIPS

Chapter V of the STCW Annex, and the associated sections of the STCW Code, address qualifications for (a) personnel on tankers, and (b) personnel on ro-ro passenger ships. (Note: A new amendment came into force on January 1, 1999 which sets service qualifications for personnel on passenger ships other than RoRo passenger ships.

Regulation V/1 - Training and qualification of masters, officers and ratings on tankers

Under this regulation, certificates must be issued in respect of two levels of training for three types of tankers.

Officers and ratings who are assigned specific duties and responsibilities related to cargo or cargo equipment on tankers must (a) complete an approved shore based fire-fighting course (b) receive basic safety training as required under regulation VI of Chapter VI (discussed in section 9 of this handbook); and (c) either (i) complete at least three months of approved seagoing service on tankers in order to acquire knowledge of safe operational practices; or (ii) complete an approved tanker familiarization course covering the syllabus given in section A-V/i of the STCW Code. Masters, chief mates, chief engineer officers, and second engineer officers, as well as any other person who has immediate (supervisory) responsibility for loading, discharging and care in transit or handling of cargo, must, in addition to the requirements identified in the previous paragraph, have experience on the particular type of tanker on which they serve (in other words, oil, chemical or liquefied gas tanker), and complete an approved specialized training program covering the subjects listed in section A-V/i of the STCW Code for the type of tanker concerned.

Regulation V 2 - Training and qualification of masters, officers and ratings and other personnel on ro-ro passenger ships

For purposes of this regulation, the term 'ro—ro passenger ship" is defined in regulation III as meaning a passenger ship with roll on – roll off cargo spaces or special category spaces as defined in SOLAS, as amended. Regulation V/2 only applies to masters, officers and crew serving on ro-ro passenger ships engaged on international voyages. However, flag States are obligated to determine the extent to which the requirements in the regulation should apply to personnel serving on ro-ro passenger ships engaged on domestic voyages.

The regulation requires personnel on ro-ro passenger ships to have specialized training, as outlined in section A-V/2 of the STCW Code, in areas such as crowd management, operational limitations of the ship, procedures for opening and closing hull openings, special emergency procedures to prevent ingress of water on vehicle decks, loading and embarkation procedures, and crisis management. Refresher training is required at least every five years.

Flag States are to ensure that documentary evidence of the completed training is issued to every person found qualified under the regulation.