



MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE

PORT MARINE CIRCULAR NO. 11 of 2009

27 Aug 2009

Shipping and Harbour Craft Community

PRO-ENTERPRISE INITIATIVE – ACCEPTANCE OF EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS SYSTEM AS ALTERNATIVE TO FORMAL EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS TO SIT FOR EXAMINATION AND QUALIFY AS PORT LIMIT STEERSMAN AND HELMSMAN.

In accordance with MPA Harbour Craft Manning Licence and Examination Regulations, a candidate must fulfill the following criteria before he is allowed to attend the Port Limit Steersman course:

- (a) At least 18 years old;
- (b) Passed eyesight test;
- (c) Have accumulated practical experience as a crew member for a total period of not less than 3 months, if the person has at least Secondary 2 education or its equivalent, or a total period of not less than 6 months.

2 To help attract more Singaporeans and Permanent Residents (PR) to join the harbour craft industry, MPA has reviewed the educational criteria for Port Limit Steersman and Helmsman course to accept the Employability Skills System (ESS)¹ developed by the Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA) as equivalent qualification to join the harbour craft industry.

¹ The ESS is a training initiative introduced in 2005 by the Workforce Development Agency (WDA) to prepare all levels of the Singapore workforce to remain employable and competitive. Today, it is a well-established framework recognised by different industries and it opens up another avenue for those who did not complete their education under the Singapore mainstream education system (and hence no formal qualifications) to upgrade themselves and accumulate working experience within the harbour craft industry.

3 With immediate effect, MPA will accept Workplace Literacy and Workplace Numeracy (WPLN) proficiency level 4 under the ESS as equivalent qualification to sit for examination and qualify as Port Limit Steersman and Port Limit Helmsman. All candidates with Secondary 2 or WPLN4 and above are only required to accumulate practical experience as crew member for a total period of not less than 3 months. Candidates are required to provide the "Statement of Attainment" issued by WDA as proof of level of proficiency attained when registering for the respective courses.

4 Any queries relating to this circular should be directed to Mr Chiang Joo Jo at Tel: 6325 2480 or Ms Puvanes at Tel: 6325 2589.

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