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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Inland Water Transport

Working Party on the Standardization of Technical
and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation
(Twenty-fifth session, 19-21 March 2003,
agenda item 7)

**MINIMUM MANNING REQUIREMENTS FOR
INLAND NAVIGATION VESSELS**

Note by the secretariat

At its twenty-third session, the Working Party felt that the draft Recommendations on minimum manning should contain, or refer to, minimum qualification requirements for each crew member mentioned in article 2. To this end, the Working Party asked Governments to transmit their proposals on possible formulations of these qualification requirements taking into account, in particular, relevant provisions of chapter 23 of the Rhine Vessel Inspection Regulations (RVBR) as set out in TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2002/4.

To facilitate the consideration of this matter, the secretariat has prepared and reproduces below the text of the possible version of article 2 based on chapter 23 of RVBR. In considering this proposal, the Working Party may wish to take into account that the Recommendations are supposed to reflect absolute minimum requirements acceptable Europe-wide and that Governments are free to establish or to continue to apply more rigid standards on certain national inland waterways where they deem it necessary.

Article 2

Crew members

1. The minimum crew of a vessel, ensuring the safety of its operation may consist of the following crew members:

- (i) Boatmasters;
- (ii) Helmsmen;
- (iii) Able crewmen;
- (iv) Ordinary crewmen;
- (v) Apprentices;
- (vi) Deck-hands;
- (v) Engineers;
- (vi) Engine-minders;
- (vii) Radio operators ^{1/}

2. The qualifications for crew members are as follows:

2.1 Boatmaster:

must hold ~~the licence (patente) required under the Rhine Licensing Regulations~~ a boatmaster's licence issued in accordance with the Recommendations on Minimum Requirements for the Issuance of Boatmaster's Licences in Inland Navigation with a view to their Reciprocal Recognition for International Traffic (resolution No. 31 of 12 November 1992) **and must acquire the competence of an engineer where the vessel's complement comprises no engineer.**

2.2 Helmsman:

(a) must have had not less than one year's experience in inland navigation as an able crewman or not less than three years' experience as an ordinary crewman within the meaning of 2.4 (b).

or

~~(b) must hold a boatmaster's certificate established under Directive 96/50/EC or a boatmaster's certificate in accordance with appendix I to Directive 91/672/EEC;~~

or

~~(c) must have had not less than four years' experience in inland navigation and hold a certificate of proficiency equivalent to the Principal Licence (Grande Patente), permitting him to act as boatmaster of a vessel on the inland waterways of a member State of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine;~~

^{1/} In accordance with the national rules of the Russian Federation and Ukraine only.

or

- ~~(d) — must have had not less than four years' experience in inland navigation and hold a certificate of proficiency recognized by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine as equivalent to the Principal Licence (Grande Patente) in accordance with article 3.05, 3, of the Rhine Licensing Regulations, permitting him to act as boatmaster on vessels on other inland waterways;~~

2.3 Able crewman:

- (a) must have had not less than one year's experience in inland navigation as an ordinary crewman and
- have successfully completed the training referred to in 2.5 below, or
 - have passed the final examination of a professional college of inland navigation, or
 - have passed any other examination for ordinary crewman recognized by the competent authority,

or

- (b) must have successfully completed training referred to in 2.5 below of a duration of not less than three years or have passed a final examination following training of not less than three years in a professional college of inland navigation provided the training includes not less than one year's experience in inland navigation,

or

- ~~(c) — must have had not less than one year's experience in inland navigation as an ordinary crewman within the meaning of 2.4 (b), and have passed a practical examination in accordance with annex C, paragraph 3.1, of the Rhine Licensing Regulations in application of the Directive on examination procedures adopted under article 1.05 of the Rhine Licensing Regulations;~~

or

- (d) must have had not less than two years' experience in inland navigation as an ordinary crewman within the meaning of 2.4 (b);

2.4 Ordinary crewman:

- (a) must be not less than 17 years of age and
- have passed an examination on completion of the training referred to in 2.5 below,
- or

- have passed an examination on completion of training in a professional college of inland navigation, or
- have passed any other examination for ordinary crewman recognized by the competent authority,

or

- (b) must be not less than 19 years of age and have had not less than three years' experience as a member of the ship's deck department, including not less than one year in inland navigation and two years either in inland navigation or at sea in coastal navigation or fishing.

2.5 Apprentice (~~deck-boy~~)^{2/}:

must be not less than 15 years of age and have an apprentice's contract which provides for attendance at a professional college of inland navigation or for a correspondence course approved by the competent authority to be taken in preparation of an equivalent diploma.

2.6 Deck-hand:

must be not less than 16 years of age.

2.7 Engineer:

- (a) must be at least 18 years of age and have passed an examination on completion of a full training course in the engine and mechanics sectors,

or

- (b) must be at least 19 years of age and have worked for not less than two years as an engine-minder on a motorized inland navigation vessel.

2.8 Engine-minder:

- (a) must be an ordinary crewman and
 - have passed an engine-minder's examination recognized by the competent authority,

or

- (b) must have had not less than one year's experience on board a motorized inland navigation vessel as ordinary crewman and have a basic knowledge of engines;

2.9 Radio operators^{3/}

^{2/} The Working Party will have to decide whether this term should be retained in the text of the Recommendations.

^{3/} The qualifications for the position of radio operator should be determined by interested Delegations.