

<b>DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SHIPPING</b>		
<b>Authorised by</b>	<b>EAC Branch</b>	<b>EACQMP Chap V1</b>
<b>DYCS</b>	<b>Instructions to Examiners</b>	<b>Circular 053</b>
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### **Qualifying Sea Service**

The qualifying service requirements have already been stipulated in the Meta Manual, Circulars and Instructions have been issued from time to time, which clearly explained the requirements of qualifying sea service on specialized vessels such as Coastal Vessels, Special types of Vessels and in exceptional areas such as harbor limits etc. The issue of Steam time for candidates appearing for Steam Certificate of Competency or for conversion from Motor to Steam and Motor and Steam (combined) has also been spelt out in the Meta Manual. However, there appears to be some pertinent issues of clarity and understanding of the rules as spelt out in the Meta Manual. The following instructions and tables give a clear guideline on the sea time and needs to be followed for aspiring candidates.

Some of the main guiding principles during application of this circular and evaluation of assessment of candidate's watch keeping certificates are as follows:

- (1) Column 'B' gives the actual propelling time required on vessels. This is a component of Column 'A' where the total sea time is stated
- (2) A Class IV Certificate of Competency holder, who has served on Motor ships, requires an additional period of 6 months approved sea service on a steam vessel as an Assistant to Watch keeper before he can appear for the combined Class IV Certificate of Competency. Out of these 6 months, 4 months would be the actual propelling time and he needs to appear in the steam paper only. (One month is calculated at a flat rate of 30 days).
- (3) It is mandatory for a person holding any certificate higher than Class IV Certificate of Competency (Motor or Steam) aspiring to hold a combined Certificate of Competency of (Steam and Motor) to start of at Class IV Motor / Steam level instead of at Class II Motor / Steam endorsement level. This requirement is absolutely necessary in accordance with STCW stipulations, as there is no scope for a person to hold independent charge / watch keeping of a vessel of a category of which he does not hold even the minimum Certificate of competency. Therefore, MEO Class I or Class II COC holder can appear for the Class IV Motor / Steam paper without having done the motor / steam time and pass theory and orals to be eligible for a combined Class IV Motor and Steam Certificate of Competency.
- (4) A candidate holding a Class I Certificate of Competency, Steam or Motor, who has completed approved sea service as an assistant to watchkeeper on a Motor or Steamship respectively can appear for an endorsement of either type, by examination, to be entitled to hold an endorsement to his Class I Certificate of Competency. This is however, not applicable for any lower Class of Certificate.

Normal table for candidates following a route from Class IV level onwards is as given below:

<b>Regulation / Category</b>	<b>Column A (Qualifying Sea Service)</b>	<b>Column B (Propelling time)</b>
<b>STCW 95 Reg III/1OIC EW</b>	<b>Total minimum approved Sea service after MEO Class IV -A</b>	<b>Minimum watchkeeping on Main Propulsion Machinery or UMS duties (on ships 750 kw or more)</b>
<b>Motor (M)</b>	<b>6 months</b>	<b>4 months</b>
<b>Steam (S)</b>	<b>6 months</b>	<b>4 months</b>
<b>Combined Steam &amp; Motor</b>	<b>8 months</b>	<b>6 months (3 months Motor + 3 months Steam)</b>
<b>STCW 95 Reg III/2 2nd engineer 3000 k W or more</b>	<b>Total minimum approved sea service after obtaining Class IV Part B (III/1)</b>	<b>Min watchkeeping on Main Propulsion Machinery or UMS duties (on ships 750 kw or more)</b>
<b>Motor (M)</b>	<b>12 months</b>	<b>8 months</b>
<b>Steam (S)</b>	<b>12 months</b>	<b>8 months</b>
<b>Combined ( Steam &amp; Motor)</b>	<b>16 months</b>	<b>12 months (6 months Motor + 6 months Steam)</b>
<b>STCW 95 Reg III/2 Chief engineer 3000 k W or more</b>	<b>Total minimum approved sea service after obtaining MEO Certificate of Competency Class II (III/2)</b>	<b>Min watch keeping on Main propulsion machinery while qualified to serve as 2nd engineer (holding III/2 cert. on Ships of power 3000 k W or more)</b>
<b>Motor (M)</b>	<b>18 months</b>	<b>12 months</b>
<b>Steam (S)</b>	<b>18 months</b>	<b>12 months</b>
<b>Combined( Steam &amp; Motor)</b>	<b>18 months</b>	<b>12 months (6m Motor + 6m Steam)</b>
<b>Endorsement (Steam or Motor)</b>	<b>9 months</b>	<b>6 months</b>
<b>This is in modification to the table given in META manual Vol. I on Page III/26 (table 3)</b>		
<b>This should be implemented with immediate effect.</b>		