

SOUTH AFRICAN MARITIME
SAFETY AUTHORITY
OFFICE TELEPHONE & FAX NUMBERS

Pretoria
Tel: 012 366 2600
Fax: 012 366 2601

Richards Bay
Tel: 035 788 0068
Fax: 035 788 0067

Durban
Tel: 031 307 1501
Fax: 031 306 4983

East London
Tel: 043 722 4120
Fax: 043 722 2264

Port Elizabeth
Tel: 041 585 0051/3
Fax: 041 585 1213

Mossel Bay
Tel: 044 690 4201
Fax: 044 691 1206

Cape Town
Tel: 021 421 6170
Fax: 021 419 0730

Saldanha Bay
Tel: 022 714 1612
Fax: 022 714 3635

Port Nolloth
Tel: 027 851 7695
Fax: 027 851 7699



THE NATIONAL SMALL VESSEL SAFETY REGULATIONS 2007

NATIONAL SMALL VESSEL EXAMINATION SYSTEM



For more information go to www.samsa.org.za and read the *Merchant Shipping (National Shipping Vessel Safety) Regulations 2007* together with SAMSA'S *Small Vessel Policy* document: "MARINE NOTICE 13".

SAMSA has in place a standardised national level of training and examination for all grades of small vessel certificates of competency. Marine Notice 13 documents the national standard, which also contains the South African Small Vessel Code of Qualifications.

The Code consists of various modules which set out the syllabi and standards for small vessel training, certification and examinations.

There are only two ways of obtaining a national certificate of competence;

1. Examination by a SAMSA appointed examiner (whether a SAMSA officer or a SAMSA appointed examiner from an authorised agency);

or

2. Training and examination by a SAMSA accredited institution.

Small vessel certificates of competence for vessels $\leq 9\text{m}$ may be used on either commercial or pleasure vessels.

Small vessel certification for vessels $\leq 9\text{m}$ issued by an authorised agency are valid for pleasure vessels only.

SAMSA is the only examination authority allowed to examine candidates for skipper certification on commercial vessels $>9\text{m}$, however recognition is given to persons already holding a recreational certificate for vessels $>9\text{m}$ obtained from an agency.



Skippers certificates available

- Day Skipper - Local Waters (restricted) $\leq 9\text{m}$ or $>9\text{m}$
- Skipper - Inland waters (restricted) $\leq 9\text{m}$ or $>9\text{m}$
- Skipper - Category R and Day Skipper - Category E $\leq 9\text{m}$ or $>9\text{m}$
- Skipper - Category C $\leq 9\text{m}$ or $>9\text{m}$
- Day Skipper - Category B $\leq 9\text{m}$ or $>9\text{m}$
- Coastal skipper $\leq 9\text{m}$ (*Category B Day and Night operation*)
- Coastal skipper $>9\text{m}$
- Skipper offshore $\leq 9\text{m}$ or $>9\text{m}$

Endorsements to national certification

- Dive skipper endorsement
- Passenger Vessel ($<25\text{GT}$) endorsement
- Commercial Night Operation endorsement
- Sailing Endorsement to a national certificate
- Surf Launching Endorsement

Details of the examination system and flowcharts describing the seetime and entry requirements for each qualification are available under Marine Notice NO. 13 of 2007, on the SAMSA website: www.samsa.org.za

Conversion of "old certificates"

At the moment all existing valid certification is still acceptable, however, with the introduction of new national standards and levels of competency there are going to be skippers wanting to (*or in some cases required to*) convert their 'old' certificates to the new national format.

In the past SAMSA policy was always that the agency responsible for issuing the certificate was also responsible for upgrading or converting them to the new format and they should still assist wherever possible.

Where conversion is not possible through the original agency, skippers should approach their nearest SAMSA office, where we will make every reasonable effort to assist in converting whatever certification is presented.