



MANNING AND CREW QUALIFICATIONS FOR COMMERCIAL YACHTS

Yachting Notice 19

*Notice to Yacht Owners, Yacht Operators, Managers, Masters,
Owners' Representatives, Appointed Surveyors and Recognised Organisations*

The Merchant Shipping Directorate draws the attention of all stakeholders to the manning and crew qualifications accepted on board Malta-registered commercial yachts under the Small Commercial Yacht Code (sCYC) and the Commercial Yacht Code (CYC).

- **Annex A:** Manning and Crew Qualifications for Commercial Yachts < 24m
- **Annex B:** Manning and Crew Qualifications for Commercial Yachts ≥ 24m

Qualifications listed in Annexes A and B are automatically recognised for service on Malta-flagged commercial yachts. Holders of these qualifications are not required to obtain additional documentation, endorsement, attestation of documentation, or any further authorisation from the Administration.

Masters, owners, and managers are required to keep a copy of this Yachting Notice on board for inspection as evidence of qualification acceptance.

Other non-STCW/equivalent qualifications may be considered, by the Administration. All enquiries relating to this matter should be addressed to this Directorate on yachtsmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt

Merchant Shipping Directorate

22 September 2026



Annex A: Manning and Crew Qualifications for Yachts < 24m in accordance to the Small Commercial Yacht Code (sCYC)

Yacht specific Certificates of Competence Definitions

TM MOY <200GT 60 Nm	Transport Malta Master on Yachts Less Than 200GT and Limited up to 60 Nm from Safe Haven
TM MOY <200GT 150 Nm	Transport Malta Master on Yachts Less Than 200GT and Limited up to 150 Nm from Safe Haven
TM MOY <200GT Unlimited	Transport Malta Master on Yachts Less Than 200GT Unlimited
YM Offshore	RYA/MCA Yachtmaster Offshore (with Commercial Endorsement appropriate to the vessel type)
YM Ocean	RYA/MCA Yachtmaster Ocean (with Commercial Endorsement appropriate to the vessel type)
IYT Limited	IYT issued Master of Yachts Limited
IYT Unlimited	IYT Master of Yachts Unlimited
CYM B	Yacht Master Category B (issued by the Government of the Republic of Croatia)
SYM	Yacht Master less than 500GT (issued by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia)
AEC	Transport Malta Accredited Engine Course
MCA AEC	UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency Approved Engine Course (AEC 1 + AEC 2) or ('old' AEC + AEC 2)

Malta Flag Endorsement Requirement

Guidance on the Applicability of a Malta Endorsement for a Certificate can be found in *Commercial Yachting Notice 15*. Information on how to apply for an Endorsement can be found in *Merchant Shipping Notice 92*.

Minimum Safe Manning Certificate

Yachts < 24 metres in length are not required to be issued with a Minimum Safe Manning (MSM) Certificate.

Single Highest Rated Engine Criteria

In line with *Yachting Notice 17*, on yachts fitted with two or more main engines, the certificate grade required for the Engineer Officers is assessed and based on the single highest rated engine power (kW) output rather than the total combined propulsive power of the yacht.



Table 1 - Minimum Safe Manning requirements for Commercial Motor and Sailing Yachts < 24m

Miles from Safe Haven	Personnel	Yacht Type	
		Motor Yacht	Sailing Yacht
Coastal up to 20	Master	1 Any TM MOY, Any YM, Any IYT, CYM B, SYM, Master II/2 or II/3 ≤200GT & 20nm	1 Any TM MOY, Any YM, Any IYT, CYM B, SYM, Master II/2 or II/3 ≤200GT & 20nm
	OOW (Nav)	-	-
	Experienced Seaman*	1	1
Short Range Up to 60	Master	1 Any TM MOY, Any YM, Any IYT, CYM B, SYM, Master II/2 or II/3 ≤200GT & 60nm	1 Any TM MOY, Any YM, Any IYT, CYM B, SYM, Master II/2 or II/3 ≤200GT & 60nm
	OOW (Nav)	-	-
	Experienced Seaman*	1	1
Extended Short Range Up to 150	Master	1 TM MOY 150 or Unlimited, Any YM, Any IYT, CYM B, SYM, Master II/2 or II/3 ≤200GT & 150nm	1 TM MOY 150 or Unlimited, Any YM, Any IYT, CYM B, SYM, Master II/2 or II/3 ≤200GT & 150nm
	OOW (Nav)	-	-
	Experienced Seaman*	1	1
Unrestricted	Master	1 TM MOY Unlimited, YM Ocean, IYT Unlimited, CYM B, SYM, Master II/2 ≤200GT	1 TM MOY Unlimited, YM Ocean, IYT Unlimited, CYM B, SYM, Master II/2 ≤200GT
	OOW (Nav)	1 TM MOY 150 or Unlimited, Any YM, Any IYT, CYM B, SYM, OOW Nav II/1≤500GT, Master II/2 or II/3 ≤200GT & 150nm	1 TM MOY 150 or Unlimited, Any YM, Any IYT, CYM B, SYM, OOW Nav II/1≤500GT, Master II/2 or II/3 ≤200GT & 150nm
	Experienced Seaman*	-	-
	Note: For Unrestricted Navigation one Crew Member shall hold an AEC or MCA AEC		



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Note *: Experienced Seaman are required to possess, as a minimum, a Basic Training Certificate of Proficiency (STCW Reg. VI/1) or equivalent STCW Certification, covering:

- I. Personal Survival Techniques
- II. Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting
- III. Elementary First Aid
- IV. Personal Safety and Social Responsibility

All crew members, including cooks and stewardesses, shall meet the above requirement.

Radio Personnel Qualifications

- Yachts engaged on Coastal and Short-Range navigation (within GMDSS Sea Area A1), one (1) seafarer shall be in possession of a GMDSS Short Range (SRC) Certificate OR a Restricted Operator's Certificate (ROC).
- Yachts engaged on Extended Short Range and Unrestricted navigation (within GMDSS Sea Area A1+A2 and above), as a minimum, one (1) seafarer shall be in possession of a GMDSS General Operator's Certificate (GOC).

General Note

Other non-STCW/equivalent qualifications may be considered, by the Administration. In these cases, the Yachts Section shall be contacted on: yachtsmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt

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Annex B: Manning and Crew Qualifications for Yachts $\geq$ 24m in accordance to the Commercial Yacht Code (CYC)

Yacht specific Certificates of Competence Definitions

TM MOY <200GT 60 Nm	Transport Malta Master on Yachts Less Than 200GT and Limited up to 60 Nm from Safe Haven
TM MOY <200GT 150 Nm	Transport Malta Master on Yachts Less Than 200GT and Limited up to 150 Nm from Safe Haven
TM MOY <200GT Unlimited	Transport Malta Master on Yachts Less Than 200GT Unlimited
YM Offshore	RYA/MCA Yachtmaster Offshore (with Commercial Endorsement appropriate to the vessel type)
YM Ocean	RYA/MCA Yachtmaster Ocean (with Commercial Endorsement appropriate to the vessel type)
IYT Limited	IYT issued Master of Yachts Limited
IYT Unlimited	IYT Master of Yachts Unlimited
CYM B	Yacht Master Category B (issued by the Government of the Republic of Croatia)
SYM	Yacht Master less than 500GT (issued by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia)
AEC	Transport Malta Accredited Engine Course
MCA AEC	UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency Approved Engine Course (AEC 1 + AEC 2) or ('old' AEC + AEC 2)
Y1	Chief Engineer Y1 vessels less than 3,000 GT and less than 9,000 kW propulsion power
Y2	Chief Engineer Y2 vessels less than 3,000 GT and less than 3,000 kW propulsion power
Y3	Chief Engineer Y3 vessels less than 500 GT and less than 3,000 kW propulsion power
Y4	Chief Engineer Y4 vessels less than 200 GT and less than 1,500 kW propulsion power

Malta Flag Endorsement Requirement

Guidance on the Applicability of a Malta Endorsement for a Certificate can be found in *Commercial Yachting Notice 15*. Information on how to apply for an Endorsement can be found in *Merchant Shipping Notice 92*

Minimum Safe Manning Certificate

Yachts $\geq$ 24 metres in length are required to be issued with a Minimum Safe Manning (MSM) Certificate.

Single Highest Rated Engine Criteria

In line with *Yachting Notice 17*, on yachts fitted with two or more main engines, the certificate grade required for the Engineer Officers is assessed and based on the single highest rated engine power (kW) output rather than the total combined propulsive power of the yacht.



Table 2 - Minimum Safe Manning requirements for Deck Department on Commercial Motor Yachts and Sailing Yachts

Miles from Safe Haven	Personnel	Yacht Type		
		≥24m & <200GT	≥200GT & <500GT	≥500GT
Short Range Up to 60	Master	1 Any TM MOY, Any YM, Any IYT, CYM B, SYM, Master II/2 or II/3 ≤200GT	1 Master II/2 ≤500GT, CYM B, SYM	1 Master II/2 ≤3000GT
	Chief Officer	-	1 TM MOY 150 or Unlimited, Any YM, Any IYT, CYM B, SYM, OOW Nav. II/1 ≤500GT, Master II/2 or II/3 ≤200GT	1 OOW Nav. II/1 ≤3000GT
	OOW (Nav)	-	-	-
	Yacht Rating*	1	2	2 (Motor Yacht) or 3 (Sailing Yacht)
Extended Short Range Up to 150	Master	1 TM MOY 150 or Unlimited, Any YM, Any IYT, CYM B, SYM, Master II/2 or II/3 ≤200GT	1 Master II/2 ≤500GT, CYM B, SYM	1 Master II/2 ≤3000GT
	Chief Officer	1 Any TM MOY, Any YM, Any IYT, CYM B, SYM, OOW Nav. II/1 ≤500GT, Master II/2 or II/3 ≤200GT	1 TM MOY 150 or Unlimited, Any YM, Any IYT, CYM B, SYM, OOW Nav. II/1 ≤500GT, Master II/2 or II/3 ≤200GT	1 Chief Mate II/2 ≤3000GT
	OOW (Nav)	-	-	-
	Yacht Rating*	1	2	2 (Motor Yacht) or 3 (Sailing Yacht)
Unrestricted	Master	1 TM MOY Unlimited, YM Ocean, IYT Unlimited, CYM B, SYM, Master II/2 ≤200GT	1 Master II/2 ≤500GT	1 Master II/2 ≤3000GT
	Chief Officer	1 TM MOY 150 or Unlimited, Any YM, Any IYT, CYM B, SYM, OOW Nav. II/1 ≤500GT, Master II/2 ≤200GT	1 OOW Nav. II/1 <3000GT	1 Chief Mate II/2 ≤3000GT
	OOW (Nav)	-	1 TM MOY 150 or Unlimited, Any YM, Any IYT, CYM B, SYM, OOW Nav. II/1 ≤500GT, Master II/2 or II/3 ≤200GT	1 OOW Nav. II/1 <3000GT
	Yacht Rating*	2	2	2 (Motor Yacht) or 3 (Sailing Yacht)



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Note *: Yacht Ratings are required to possess, as a minimum, a Basic Training Certificate of Proficiency (STCW Reg. VI/1) or equivalent STCW Certification, covering:

V. Personal Survival Techniques

VI. Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting

VII. Elementary First Aid

VIII. Personal Safety and Social Responsibility

IX. Security Awareness Certification (STCW Reg. VI/6), applicable on yachts ≥ 500 GT and applicable to all crew, including Cooks, Stewards and Stewardess

Radio Personnel Qualifications

- Yachts < 300 GT and certified to operate exclusively within Sea Area A1 require a minimum one operator to be in possession of a GMDSS Short Range Certificate (SRC).
- Yachts ≥ 300 GT and < 500 GT, certified exclusively for Sea Area A1 require, as a minimum, one operator to be in possession of a GMDSS Restricted Operator's Certificate (ROC) in accordance with STCW IV/2.
- Yachts < 500 GT, certified to operate beyond Sea Area A1 require, as a minimum, one operator to be in possession of a GMDSS General Operator's Certificate (GOC) in accordance with STCW IV/2.
- Yachts ≥ 500 GT require that as a minimum two deck/navigation personnel be in possession of a GMDSS General Operator's Certificate (GOC) in accordance with STCW IV/2. ROC Certification is accepted for yachts certified to operate exclusively in Area A1.

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Table 3 - Minimum qualifications for Engine Department on Commercial Motor Yachts

Miles from Safe Haven	Personnel	Yacht Type						
		≥24m & <200GT		≥200GT & <500GT		≥500GT		
		≤1500kW	>1500Kw	≤3000kW	>3000kW	≤1500kW	≤3000kW	>3000kW
Short Range Up to 60	Chief Eng.	1 ⁽⁺⁾ AEC, MCA AEC	1 ⁽⁺⁾ AEC ^(A) , MCA AEC ^(A)	1 Chief Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW III/1 Unlimited, Y3	1 Chief Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. III/2 Unlimited, Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW ^(A) , EOOW III/1 Unlimited ^(A) , Y2, Y3 ^(A)	1 Chief Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW III/1 Unlimited, Y3	1 Chief Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. III/2 Unlimited, Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW ^(A) , Y2	1 Chief Eng. III/2 ≤3000kW Unlimited Area, Second Eng. III/2 Unlimited, Y1
	Second Eng.	-		-		-		
	Assistant Eng.	-		II		1 ⁽⁺⁾ AEC, MCA AEC, STCW Reg. III/4		
Extended Short Range Up to 150	Chief Eng.	1 ⁽⁺⁾ AEC, MCA AEC, Y4	1 ⁽⁺⁾ Chief Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW III/1 Unlimited, Y3, Y4 ^(A)	1 Chief Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW III/1 Unlimited, Y3	1 Chief Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. III/2 Unlimited, Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW ^(A) , EOOW III/1 Unlimited ^(A) , Y2, Y3 ^(A)	1 Chief Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, Y2	1 Chief Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. III/2 Unlimited, Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW ^(A) , Y2	1 Chief Eng. III/2 ≤3000kW Unlimited Area, Second Eng. III/2 Unlimited, Y1
	Second Eng.	-		-		1 Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW III/1 Unlimited, Y3	1 Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW III/1 Unlimited, Y3	1 Second Eng. III/2 Unlimited, Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW ^(A) , Y2
	Assistant Eng.	-		II		-		



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Unrestricted	Chief Eng.	1 Chief Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW III/1 Unlimited, Y4	1 Chief Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW III/1 Unlimited, Y3	1 Chief Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW III/1 Unlimited, Y3	1 Chief Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. III/2 Unlimited, Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW ^(A) , EOOW III/1 Unlimited ^(A) , Y2, Y3 ^(A)	1 Chief Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, Y2	1 Chief Eng. III/2 ≤3000kW Unlimited Area, Second Eng. III/2 Unlimited, Y1	1 Chief Eng. III/2 ≤3000kW Unlimited Area, Second Eng. III/2 Unlimited
	Second Eng.	-		1 ⁽⁺⁾ Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW III/1 ≤3000kW, Y4	1 ⁽⁺⁾ Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW III/1 Unlimited, Y3, Y4 ^(A)	1 Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW III/1 Unlimited, Y3	1 Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW III/1 Unlimited ^(A) , Y3 ^(A)	1 Second Eng. III/2 Unlimited, Second Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW ^(A) , Y2
	Assistant Eng.	1 ⁽⁺⁾ AEC, MCA AEC, STCW Reg. III/5		-		-		

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Table 4 - Minimum qualifications for Engine Department on Commercial Sailing Yachts

Miles from Safe Haven	Personnel	Yacht Type			
		≥24m & <200GT ≤750kW	≥200GT & <500GT ≤1500kW	≥500GT	
				≤1500kW	>1500kW
Short Range Up to 60	Chief Eng.	1 ⁽⁺⁾ (▲) AEC, MCA AEC	1 ⁽⁺⁾ (▲) Chief Eng. III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. Reg. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW Reg. III/1 Unlimited, Y4	1 Chief Eng. Reg III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. Reg. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW Reg. III/1 Unlimited, Y3	1 Chief Eng. Reg III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. Reg. III/3 <3000kW, EOOW Reg. III/1 Unlimited, Y3
	Second Eng.	-	-	-	
	Assistant Eng.	-	†	1 ⁽⁺⁾ AEC, MCA AEC, STCW Reg. III/4	
Extended Short Range Up to 150	Chief Eng.	1 ⁽⁺⁾ (▲) AEC, MCA AEC	1 ⁽⁺⁾ (▲) Chief Eng. Reg III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. Reg. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW Reg. III/1 Unlimited, Y3	1 Chief Eng. Reg III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. Reg. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW Reg. III/1 Unlimited, Y3	1 Chief Eng. Reg III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. Reg. III/2 Unlimited, Second Eng. Reg. III/3 <3000kW (note A), Y2
	Second Eng	-	-	1 ⁽⁺⁾ AEC (note A), MCA AEC (note A), EOOW Reg. III/1 ≤3000kW, Y4	1 ⁽⁺⁾ AEC (note A), MCA AEC (note A), EOOW Reg. III/1 ≤3000kW, Y4
	Assistant Eng	-	†	-	
Unrestricted	Chief Eng	1 ⁽⁺⁾ AEC, MCA AEC	1 ⁽⁺⁾ Chief Eng. Reg III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. Reg. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW Reg. III/1 Unlimited, Y3	1 Chief Eng. Reg III/3 ≤3000kW, Second Eng. Reg. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW Reg. III/1 Unlimited, Y3	1 Chief Eng. Reg. III/2 ≤3000kW Unlimited Area, Second Eng. Reg. III/2 Unlimited, Y2
	Second Eng	-	-	1 ⁽⁺⁾ AEC (note A), MCA AEC (note A), EOOW Reg. III/1 ≤3000kW, Y4	1 ⁽⁺⁾ Second Eng. Reg. III/3 ≤3000kW, EOOW Reg. III/1 Unlimited, Y3
	Assistant Eng	1 ⁽⁺⁾ (■) AEC, MCA AEC, STCW Reg. III/5	1 ⁽⁺⁾ (■) AEC, MCA AEC, STCW Reg. III/5	-	



Note ▲: The Chief Engineer may be omitted if the power is less than 300kW per engine and if another crew member holds an AEC and provided that the yacht has all the main engine parameter indicators on the cockpit

Note ■: The Assistant Engineer may be omitted if the power is less than 500kW per engine

Note “A”: Certificate holder is also required to have an approved engine manufacturer’s course certificate appropriate to the engine type and power range or the yacht must hold a valid Engine Maintenance Agreement with the engine Manufacturer or their authorised representative.

Note †: An Assistant Engineer shall be available onboard Short Range Yachts < 500 GT and Extended Short Range Yachts < 500 GT, which have 24/7 Manned Machinery Spaces or which do not have an active engine shore-based maintenance contract, or both. In this case the qualifications for the assistant engineer shall be any of the following: **AEC, MCA AEC, STCW Reg. III/4.**

Note “+”: (Dual Certification): Up to one single dual deck and engineer role, other than the Master, is acceptable provided that the yacht has been assigned a classification society UMS (Unmanned Machinery Spaces) notation or fulfils the following criteria:

- I. It has full bridge control of main engine manoeuvring;
- II. It is fitted with high level bilge alarms in the machinery space;
- III. The engine room alarm system, including the fire alarm, is relayed to the accommodation and/or the bridge;
- IV. Notwithstanding the above provisions, the crew compliment on yachts < 24m shall not be less than 3.

Dual Role satisfying the requirements of the Commercial Yacht Code require formal written confirmation from yachtsmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt

General Note

Other non-STCW/equivalent qualifications may be considered, by the Administration. In these cases, the Yachts Section shall be contacted on: yachtsmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt