



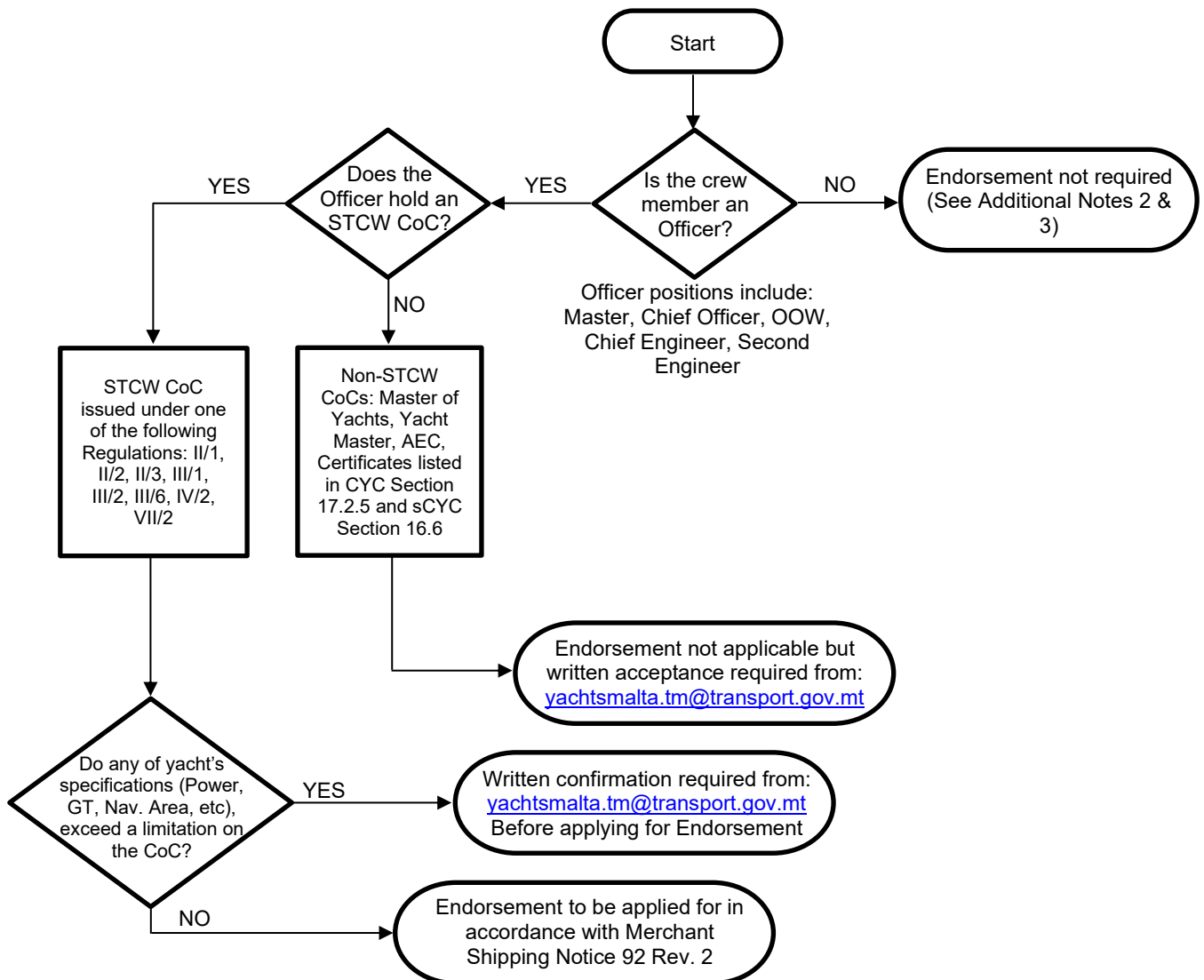
## GUIDANCE ON THE APPLICABILITY OF A MALTA ENDORSEMENT FOR A CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY (CoC)

### Commercial Yachting Notice 15

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

The Directorate would like to remind all concerned that, in accordance with Section 17.2.5 of the Commercial Yacht Code (CYC) 2025 and Section 16.6 of the Small Commercial Yacht Code (sCYC), the Merchant Shipping Directorate recognises both STCW qualifications (subject to the issuance of Flag State Endorsements for non-Maltese certificates of competency) and specific non-STCW qualifications.

The flow-chart below has been designed to provide a clearer guidance on which non-Maltese STCW qualifications require a Flag State Endorsement and those certificates that require a written acceptance by the Directorate on a case-by-case basis.





### Operational Requirements & Notes:

- 1. Recognition of STCW Certificates of Competency (CoC):** It should first be verified that an STCW CoC has been issued by an Administration from the list of Countries recognised by Malta. STCW CoCs that are not recognised are not acceptable for Officer positions.
- 2. Deck Department Endorsements:** Non-Maltese STCW qualifications for Deck Officers (Reg. II/1, II/2, II/3, VII/2) must be endorsed alongside a valid GMDSS General or Restricted Operator's Certificate (Reg. IV/2).
- 3. Assistant Engineer Qualifications:**
  - **Non-STCW (e.g., AEC):** Assistant Engineers holding non-STCW certificates require written confirmation via [yachtsmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt](mailto:yachtsmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt).
  - **STCW (Reg. III/1, III/2, III/3):** While not always mandatory for all assistant roles, obtaining a Malta Endorsement is **strongly recommended** to prevent issues with foreign Port State Control.
- 4. Yacht Ratings:** The Minimum Safe Manning Certificate (MSMC) requires Yacht Ratings to hold, at least, a **Basic Training Certificate of Proficiency** (STCW Reg. VI/1) or equivalent STCW Certification, covering:
  1. Personal Survival Techniques
  2. Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting
  3. Elementary First Aid
  4. Personal Safety and Social Responsibility
- 5. Security Awareness Certification (STCW Reg. VI/6):** Applicable to all crew, including Cooks, Stewards and Stewardess, on yachts  $\geq 500GT$ .
- 6. Non-Mandatory Officers:** Even if a position is not explicitly required by the MSMC (e.g., OOW Engineers or Electro Technical Officers), any officer engaged on board holding a non-Maltese STCW CoC **shall** hold a valid Malta Endorsement.
- 7. Different Certifications:** Where an officer holds both a non-STCW CoC (Master of Yachts) and a non-Maltese STCW CoC (GMDSS), the STCW certificate requires a Flag State **Endorsement**, while the non-STCW CoC requires a **written confirmation**.
- 8. Dual Role Positions:** Dual Role satisfying the requirements of Section 17.6 of the CYC 2025 require formal written confirmation from [yachtsmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt](mailto:yachtsmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt).



**Application Summary Table:**

Qualification Type	Requirement	Action / Contact
<b>Non-Maltese STCW CoC</b>	Mandatory Endorsement	Apply through Seafarer Portal (MS Notice 92 Rev.2)
<b>Non-STCW CoC (Master of Yachts/AEC)</b>	Written Confirmation	<a href="mailto:yachtsmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt">yachtsmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt</a>
<b>Dual Role Positions</b>	Written Confirmation	<a href="mailto:yachtsmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt">yachtsmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt</a>
<b>Yacht Rating (STCW VI/1)</b>	Valid Basic Training Certificate of Proficiency or equivalent	Maintain records on board

This Directorate reiterates the importance of ensuring that all original certificates and endorsements are retained on board the vessel and made fully available for inspection at all times.

Merchant Shipping Directorate

24 April 2026