



ENGINEER OFFICER CERTIFICATION FOR YACHTS WITH MULTIPLE ENGINE CONFIGURATIONS

Yachting Notice 17

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

1. Introduction & Purpose

The Merchant Shipping Directorate continuously strives to support the evolution of the yachting sector by implementing pragmatic, forward-thinking, and commercially responsive regulatory standards.

In alignment with contemporary international standards and practices within the yachting sector, this Directorate wishes to clarify and streamline the safe manning assessment criteria regarding propulsion power calculation for engineering crew certification.

This Notice serves to inform all stakeholders that Transport Malta applies a practical approach when evaluating the minimum required grade of engineering certificates for yachts equipped with multiple engine setups or steerable propulsion configurations.

2. Main Policy Arrangement for Multiple Engine Configurations

To alleviate administrative complexities, the certificate grade required for Engineer Officers serving onboard yachts is not determined strictly by cumulative total propulsive power across all main engines.

The following arrangement applies:

Single Highest Rated Engine Criteria: 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 output rather than the total combined propulsive power of the yacht.

3. Yachts with Steerable Propulsion Systems (Azipods)

In parallel with the multiple engine layout provisions, technological advancements in yacht propulsion are fully recognised under this arrangement.

Thruster Pod Criteria: For yachts utilising steerable or azimuth propulsion systems (e.g., azimuth thruster pods/azipods), the baseline power threshold used to evaluate the required engineering certification level will similarly be calculated based on the power of the highest rated single thruster pod.

4. Applicability

This certification acceptance criteria applies exclusively to Pleasure Yachts and Commercial Yachts. It does not apply to Passenger Yachts or any other vessel types.

For further information or technical queries, please contact the Merchant Shipping Directorate Yachting Section at: yachtsmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt

Merchant Shipping Directorate

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