



August 2, 2010

## Mariner Training and Assessment on Loran-C

On February 8, 2010, the Coast Guard ceased transmission of the Loran-C signal. As the Loran-C system is no longer in operation, it is unnecessary and impractical to require mariners to demonstrate competency navigating by use of Loran-C.

Effective immediately, mariners applying for Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) endorsement as Officer in Charge of a Navigational Watch (OICNW) will not be required to complete the practical assessment to determine a ship's position by use of electronic navigational aids: LORAN. This assessment is designated as number *OICNW-1-4C* in National Maritime Center Policy Letter 01-02.

As specified in 46 CFR 11.903(c) and Navigational and Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC) 08-02, *Guidelines for Assessing Merchant Mariners Through Demonstrations of Proficiency as Officers in Charge of a Navigational Watch on Ships of 500 Gross Tonnage or More as Measured Under the International Tonnage Convention (ITC)*, mariners applying for an OICNW endorsement are required to demonstrate they have met the competency standards in Table A-II/1 of the STCW Code.

As of February 8, 2010, all questions concerning Loran-C have been removed from Coast Guard administered examinations for deck officer endorsements. Training providers offering Coast Guard approved courses that include training in Loran-C may revise their courses and/or the examinations used in these courses to reflect the discontinuance of the Loran-C system. This bulletin constitutes approval from the National Maritime Center to eliminate Loran-C topics from course curricula and examinations. A copy of this bulletin should be filed with course files.

Sincerely,

**A. S. Lloyd**  
**Captain, U.S. Coast Guard**

---

Please e-mail comments, complaints and suggestions to [iasknmc@uscg.mil](mailto:iasknmc@uscg.mil).