



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
2000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO

OPNAVINST 1412.6D
N86
28 JUN 2006

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 1412.6D

From: Chief of Naval Operations (N86)

Subj: SURFACE WARFARE SUPPLY CORPS OFFICER (SWSCO)
QUALIFICATION AND DESIGNATION

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 1542.5B
(b) Naval Military Personnel Manual, Article 1210-150

1. **Purpose.** To revise and reissue the requirements for qualification and designation as a Surface Warfare Supply Corps Officer.

2. **Cancellation.** OPNAVINST 1412.6C.

3. **Discussion.** The program described in this instruction is designed to recognize the significant contributions made by officers of the Supply Corps while serving in surface ships. SWSCO qualification represents a level of shipboard knowledge that distinguishes an officer, limited duty officer, or warrant officer of the Supply Corps from his or her peers. The use of the Surface Warfare Officer Division Officer At-Sea Training Program reduces the variance between qualification programs aboard different ships. The SWSCO qualification program is mandatory for all afloat Supply Corps Officers. Commanders and above with another Supply Corps professional qualification (e.g., Naval Aviation Supply Officer (NASO)) and officers serving in NASO qualifying billets in accordance with reference (a) may elect not to participate, but SWSCO qualification is encouraged for these officers.

4. **Eligibility.** The following are eligible to attain designation as Surface Warfare Supply Corps Officers:

a. Commissioned Supply Corps officers permanently assigned to a commissioned U.S. Navy or Military Sealift Command (MSC) surface ship or afloat staff.

b. Ready Reserve Officers (Inactive Duty) meeting the following criteria:

(1) Assigned to afloat reserve unit for a minimum of 96 drill periods within a 3-year period, of which at least 40 must be performed onboard ship.

(2) Pursue qualification over a minimum of three 2-week Annual Training (AT) periods.

(3) Make documented contribution to a successful Supply Management Inspection/Supply Management Assessment (SMI/SMA).

Note: Qualifications earned while on active duty remain in effect for Reserve officers.

5. **Standards.** The intent of this instruction is that all officers seeking SWSCO qualification meet the same requirements and high standards of performance. An officer pursuing qualification as a SWSCO must:

a. Comply with eligibility criteria in paragraph 4.

b. Demonstrate effective leadership and management skills while performing duties as a Supply Corps officer by receiving no unsatisfactory grade on a SMI/SMA in any area for which the officer is directly responsible/accountable. Any area receiving an unsatisfactory grade must be documented as satisfactory during a subsequent re-inspection in order for the officer to qualify. In the case of a Supply department head, this includes all areas of supply.

c. Complete the following PQS:

(1) Division Officer Afloat (NAVEDTRA 43463-1A).

(2) Basic Damage Control (NAVEDTRA 43119-G)
Watchstations 301-306.

(3) Qualify and serve successfully as In-Port Officer of the Deck (NAVEDTRA 43397BQ8 or other NAVEDTRA PQS specific to ship class, if applicable).

d. Complete the Surface Warfare Officer Division Officer Course (SWOSDOC) At-Sea Curriculum. Completion of the at-sea curriculum satisfies Fundamentals and Systems (100 and 200 series) portions of Small Boat Officer and OOD(inport). This includes all Interactive

Courseware (ICW), practicums, practical problems, case studies, and satisfactory performance (80%) on all module tests.

Note: This does not include or require qualification as Officer of the Deck Underway or attending Surface Warfare Officer School Division Officer Course (SWOSDOC) in Newport, Rhode Island.

e. After satisfying the requirements in paragraphs 5a through 5d, display a general professional knowledge of all aspects of own ship's systems, interrelations, capabilities, and missions in terms of above PQS requirements before a multi-member board. This board will be chaired by the Commanding Officer, surface warfare qualified MSC area, sub-area, or afloat staff commander (as appropriate), or a designated Surface Warfare Officer, Lieutenant Commander or senior, and comprised of Surface Warfare Officers and the ship's senior Surface Warfare Supply Corps Officer (if the ship has a SWSCO assigned).

6. **Previously Designated Surface Warfare Officers.** Supply Corps officers previously designated as Surface Warfare Officers or Surface Warfare qualified per OPNAVINST 1412.2H may request designation as Surface Warfare Supply Corps officers upon completion of 12 months satisfactory performance in a Supply Corps billet aboard a surface ship, including receiving no unsatisfactory grade in a SMI/SMA. Qualification may be approved by the commanding officer as outlined in paragraph 8.

7. **Timeline.** Officers designated 310X must attain SWSCO qualification within the first 18 months of shipboard service except as otherwise provided here:

a. Commanding officers may grant an extension of time authorized for final qualification for up to 6 months when one of the following circumstances precludes completion within the 18-month time frame:

(1) Time spent in Regular or Complex Overhaul or Restricted Availability precludes an officer from completing watchstation requirements.

(2) The ship's operating schedule does not afford sufficient time underway to complete watchstation requirements.

(3) An unusual shipboard assignment, personal hardship, or other unusual circumstances preclude completion within 18 months.

b. Commanding officers should solicit Immediate Superior in Command (ISIC) assistance as necessary to arrange temporary assignment to operational units to assist in the SWSCO qualification when the ship is encumbered by circumstances outlined in paragraph 7a or for any similar situation.

Note: Cross-decking is highly encouraged when available, particularly for ships primarily manned by civilians with a military detachment aboard.

c. Upon granting an extension beyond 18 months, the commanding officer will submit a letter report to Chief of Naval Personnel (CHNAVPERS) (PERS-4412), copy to the ISIC and Type Commander (TYCOM). The report will explain the reason for delayed qualification, estimate additional time required, and comment on the officer's potential for qualification.

d. A Ready Reserve officer on inactive duty who is eligible to qualify as a SWSCO in accordance with paragraph 4b shall meet all of the above requirements. There is no qualification time limit for those officers.

e. If qualification has not been achieved upon transfer to another ship, the commanding officer of the ship receiving the officer shall recognize recorded attainment to date, but may require a demonstration of knowledge in any or all areas deemed appropriate. When possible, an officer should be assigned as necessary to complete SWSCO qualification during the initial assignment.

8. Approval of Qualification

a. The commanding officer may qualify officers as Surface Warfare Supply Corps officers upon completion of all requirements listed in paragraph 5 or, if applicable, paragraph 6.

b. Supply Corps officers assigned to afloat MSC units may be qualified by the surface warfare qualified MSC area, sub-area, or afloat staff commander, as appropriate.

c. Once qualification is achieved, transfer from one ship to another shall not require requalification as a SWSCO or revalidation of SWO PQS. However, requalification or a formal demonstration of knowledge in a particular watchstation in the new ship may be required as directed by the commanding officer.

d. In the interest of maintaining consistent standards of qualification, Type Commanders (including Naval Air Forces, U.S. Atlantic and Pacific Fleets (AIRLANT/PAC) and Submarine Forces, U.S. Atlantic and Pacific Fleets (SUBLANT/PAC) (for surface ships in their command), and Immediate Superiors In Command (ISICs) are directed to ensure that the spirit and intent of this instruction are being followed by units under their command. This should be accomplished by maintaining and evaluating qualifiers and qualification programs.

9. **Designation and Authority to Wear the Insignia**

a. The qualifying officer is authorized to present the SWSCO insignia to an officer upon qualification. The achievement should be recognized at an appropriate ceremony and relevant comments shall be included in the officer's next regular report of fitness.

b. The qualifying officer shall forward notification of all SWSCO qualifications to Chief of Naval Personnel (CHNAVPERS) (PERS-44). Upon receipt, CHNAVPERS will assign the Additional Qualification Designator (AQD) LA8 to the officer qualified. Qualified Surface Warfare Officers transferring into the Supply Corps and attaining Surface Warfare Supply Corps Officer designation will be assigned AQD LA8 in addition to retaining the AQD LA9.

10. **Revocation of Qualification**

a. A SWSCO shall retain such designation until it is revoked by CHNAVPERS.

b. A commanding officer, or any ISIC in the individual's chain of command, may recommend revocation of SWSCO designation when an officer's performance of surface warfare duties afloat is unsatisfactory.

c. A request for revocation of SWSCO qualification shall be submitted following provisions of reference (b).

d. A recommendation for revocation shall not be made in lieu of detachment for cause, nor shall recommendations automatically be included in cases of detachment for cause. Revocation may be considered and recommended coincidentally with

a detachment for cause but shall be handled administratively as a separate action by CHNAVPERS.

e. Upon revocation, the officer's AQDs of LA8 and/or LA9 will be removed.

11. **Non-Attainment of Qualification.** Commanding officers who recognize that a 310X designated officer lacks motivation, interest, aptitude, or application to qualify shall:

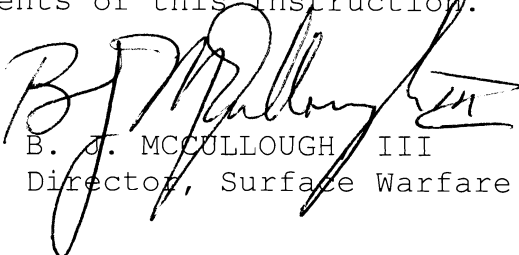
a. Submit a report containing the circumstances, officer's potential, and an appropriate recommendation concerning retention in the naval service, via the chain of command, to CHNAVPERS (PERS-4412). Reports of fitness should also reflect unsatisfactory progress toward SWSCO qualification.

b. The officer concerned shall be afforded the opportunity to comment on the commanding officer's report. Such comments shall be appended as the first endorsement of the report, and returned to the commanding officer. The commanding officer may then make additional comments and append them to the basic report as the second endorsement. The report shall then be forwarded via the chain of command.

c. The commanding officer shall submit a report of non-attainment no later than 18 months after an officer reports on board unless an extension is granted in accordance with paragraph 7.

12. **Implementation.** The above requirements are effective as of the date of this instruction. Those officers onboard prior to the effective date and currently working towards SWSCO qualification are encouraged, but not required to take advantage of the information provided in the SWOSDOC At-Sea Curriculum.

13. **Review.** As principal advisor to the Chief of Naval Operations on Surface Warfare matters, the Director of Surface Warfare (N86) is charged with the responsibility for periodic review and updating of the contents of this instruction.


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