



Maritime &  
Coastguard  
Agency



Training course approved by the MCA



Fully Online MCA Approved (STCW ISPS)

# Proficiency in Designated Security Duties

For Cargo Ships, Ferries, Offshore Mobile Platforms & the Energy Sector

Crew & Staff



MCA accredited course provider





## About

The fully online, UK DfT Maritime & Coastguard Agency [STCW ISPS) Proficiency in Designated Security Duties [PDSD] Course, also referred to as a Vessel Security Duties [VSD] is a mandatory training requirement under STCW ISPS for members of a Ship's Crew or Staff reporting to the Ship Security Officer, who have been assigned designated security duties on board ship.

This course has been specifically tailored for Commercial Cargo Vessels, Offshore Mobile Platforms and Ferry Crew & Staff.

## Approving Body

The Proficiency in Designated Security Duties [PDSD] Course is fully Approved by the UK DfT Maritime & Coastguard Agency [MCA] and is internationally recognised and accepted. It includes the 2010 Manila Amendments and meets the requirements of Section A-VI/6, paragraphs 6 to 8 of the STCW Convention and Code, and Table A-VI/6-2.



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## Target Audience

This course has been tailored specifically for crew and staff, who work on board vessels such as bulk cargo, container transporters, chemical, mobile offshore platforms, car transporters and ferries who possess security duties under the Ship Security Plan.

## Course Duration

The online Designated Security Duties [PDSD] Course duration is approximately 8 hours in duration. A slight variation is allowed for individual reading speeds, but this minimum must be met in order to successfully pass this course.

## Regulations

The course has been developed with the following considerations:

- The Merchant Navy Training Board [MNTB] Security Courses Criteria [1st Edition].
- STCW Reg VI/6 para 4 Section A-VI/6, para 6 to 8 of the STCW Convention and Code [2010]
- International Maritime Organization [IMO] Model Course 3.26.
- The International Ship & Port Security [ISPS] Code as amended [STCW Table A-VI/6-2]



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## Course Subjects

- ✓ The Development of the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code
- ✓ Understand the relevant international conventions, codes and recommendations relating to Maritime Piracy & Armed Robbery against Shipping
- ✓ Understand the roles and responsibilities of relevant Bodies and Organisations
- ✓ The roles and responsibilities of Contracting Governments, Designated Authorities, and Recognised Security Organisations
- ✓ The Security Roles & Responsibilities of Crew and Port Security Personnel
- ✓ Measures and Procedures for Maritime Security [MARSEC] Levels
- ✓ Recognition of weapons, dangerous substances, and devices
- ✓ Recognition of persons who may pose a threat to the security of the ship
- ✓ Identifying techniques used to circumvent security measure
- ✓ The handling of Sensitive Security-Related Information [SSRI] and Communications
- ✓ Identifying security threats including Maritime Piracy & Armed Robbery against Shipping
- ✓ Security methods, equipment & systems
- ✓ Security monitoring, monitoring equipment & systems
- ✓ The Ship Security Alert System [SSAS]
- ✓ The Ship Security Plan [SSP]
- ✓ The provisions for maintaining security
- ✓ Criteria for setting Maritime Security [MARSEC] Levels under the ISPS Code
- ✓ Actions to prevent weapons, dangerous substances and devices being brought on board
- ✓ Guidance and measure for Anti-Piracy and Anti-Armed Robbery
- ✓ Responses to Emergency Situations including Maritime Piracy & Armed Robbery against Shipping
- ✓ Physical Searches & Non-Intrusive Inspections
- ✓ Crowd Management & Control Requirements
- ✓ Emergency Drills & Exercises



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## Invigilation Requirement

Learners taking this Online MCA Approved STCW ISPS Proficiency in Designated Security Duties [PDSD] Course are required to be invigilated by a Senior Officer on board the vessel.

If taking the course away from the vessel and require an invigilation to be carried out at home, they must have a person of good standing [police officer, lawyer, doctor, someone with a professional qualification] act as their Invigilator.

Please note that you cannot have a family member or friend act as your Invigilator. If you do not have access to either of the options above, please see below for Remote Invigilation Sessions (RIS).

## Remote Invigilation Session (RIS)

Learners can also attend a free Remote Invigilation Session offered by VIRSEC whilst undertaking the Course Assessment(s).

These are offered strictly Monday to Thursday [1400 to 1600 hrs BST/GMT] or Friday [1000 to 1200 hrs BST/GMT].

If a session is required outside of these, or office hours, then a mandatory charge of £60 +VAT will be required before the Invigilation is carried out.

## Taking Online or Offline

You can take the course fully online as expected, but we also have enabled an offline capability available through an APP (available via Googleplay or the Apple App Store).

You may download the course to the APP and take the course whilst at sea, or in areas of poor internet quality.

Once you have returned to land, or are in an area of good signal quality, you may then upload the course to the system, and sync it with your User area on the LMS [<https://virsec.lms.org>].

To learn more about taking the course(s) offline, please contact us at [training@virsec.org](mailto:training@virsec.org).

## Pre-Requisites

There are no pre-requisites for attending this online STCW ISPS Maritime Security Course although sea time is desirable.



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## Course Learning Outcomes

The PSDS Course meets with the following Learning Outcomes as set out by the Merchant Navy Training Board.

1. Know why ship security is important and knows the roles and responsibilities of the organisations and individuals involved.
2. Know what constitutes a security risk, threat and vulnerability to the ship, its personnel, cargo, and operations.
3. Understand the capabilities and limitations of security methods, equipment, and systems.
4. Know how to maintain the measures in a ship security plan and related requirements.
5. Maintain the effectiveness of security arrangements, procedures, and equipment at the three security levels, considering their limitations.

## Why Take This Course

- ✓ UK DfT MCA Approved
- ✓ Fully STCW ISPS Recognised Course
- ✓ Fully Compliant with IMO Model 3.26
- ✓ This Course is IMO Whitelisted
- ✓ No Expiry on the Official Course Certificate
- ✓ 100% Online including Course Assessments
- ✓ Full Set of Course Notes to Keep
- ✓ Learning Confirmation Exercises Throughout
- ✓ Interactive Course Learning Materials
- ✓ Rapid Turnaround on Course Certification
- ✓ Flexible Learning at Your Own Pace
- ✓ Course Tailored for this Specific Sector
- ✓ Take Online or Offline Using the APP

## Course Pricing

The online course is £195 UK Pounds or the equivalent of an associated currency at the time of purchasing this course. Email us to learn about bulk course booking discounts.

## Discount Offer

If you purchase this course today, please use the following coupon code to receive **10% OFF** the listed course price.

**MAR-SEC-10**



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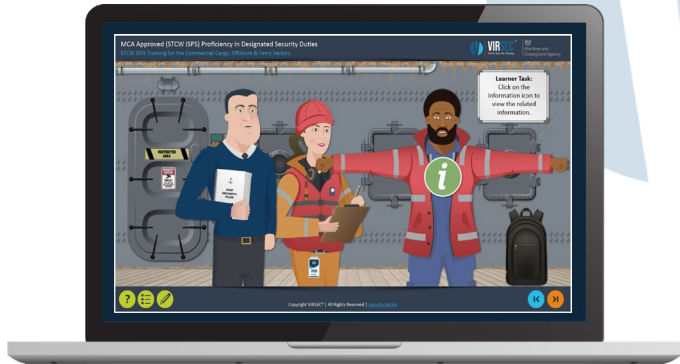
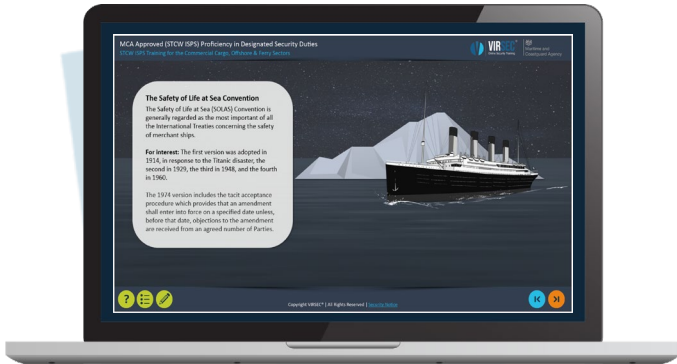
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## Sample Course Slides





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