VIRSEC®

Fully Online MCA Approved [STCW ISPS]

Proficiency as Ship Security Officer

for Cruise Ship Crew & Staff

About

The Proficiency as Ship Security Officer [SSO] Course, also referred to a Vessel Security Officer [VSO] is a mandatory training requirement under STCW ISPS for members of a Ship's Crew fulfilling the role of Ship Security Officer appointed by the Shipping Company.

The course teaches the learner to ensure both the security of the ship, as well as the implementation and support of the Ship Security Plan. This course has been specifically tailored for potential Ship Security Officers for Cruise Ships.

Target Audience

The course is aimed at those seeking a certificate of proficiency as a Ship Security compliant with Chapter XI-2 of the annex to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) 1974, as amended and the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code.

Course Duration

The Ship Security Officer [SSO] Course duration is approximately 21 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.

Awarding Body

The Proficiency Ship Security Officer [SSO] 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/5, paragraphs 1 to 4 of the STCW Convention and Code and considering the guidance given in Section B-VI/5 of the Code, and Table A-VI/5.

Maritime & Coastguard Agency
Training course approved by the MCA

Regulations

The course has been developed with the following considerations:

- MNTB Security Courses Criteria [2nd Edition]
- Regulation VI/5 of the STCW Convention and Code [2010]
- IMO Model Course 3.19 [2012 Edition]
- Chapter XI-2 of the annex to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea [SOLAS] Convention [as amended]
- The International Ship & Port Security [ISPS] Code as amended [STCW Table A-VI/5]

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Course Subjects

- The Development of the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code

- 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 measures

- The handling of Sensitive Security-Related Information [SSRI] and Communications

- Identifying security threats including Maritime Piracy & Armed Robbery against Shipping

- Declarations of Security [DoS]

- The On-Scene Security Survey

- The Ship Security Assessment [SSA]

- 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

- Crew Training, Emergency Drills & Exercises

- European Commission [DG MOVE] and European Maritime Safety Agency

- Port and Flag States

- UK DfT Maritime Security and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA)

- Recognised Security Organisations and limitations in their use

- The Shipping Company

- Masters Authority and Discretion for Ship Safety and Security

- Authority of the Duly Authorised Officer [DAO]

- Ship Identification Number [SIN], Automatic Identification System [AIS], Ship Security Alert System [SSAS] and Long-Range Identification and Tracking [LRIT]

- And more ......

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Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. The learner understands the importance of ship security and the roles and responsibilities of organisations and individuals involved in it.

2. The learner knows how to assess security risk, threat and vulnerability to the ship, its personnel, cargo, and operations.

3. The learner understands the capabilities and limitations of security methods, equipment, and systems.

4. The learner knows how to implement a ship security plan and related regulatory requirements.

5. The learner knows how to determine the effectiveness of current security arrangements, procedures, and equipment.

6. The learner understands how to promote security awareness and vigilance on board ship.

Why Take This Course

✓ UK DfT MCA Approved

✓ Fully STCW ISPS Recognised Course

✓ Fully Compliant with IMO Model 3.19

✓ 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 £560 UK Pounds [+VAT] 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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Invigilation Requirement

Learners taking this Online MCA Approved STCW ISPS Proficiency as Ship Security Officer [SSO] 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://virseclms.org].

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

Pre-Requisites

Under the mandatory requirement of the UK Department for Transport Maritime & Coastguard Agency [MCA], learners wishing to undertake the course must possess 12 months sea service, or as at the discretion of the MCA, appropriate sea service (minimum of 3 months) and knowledge of ships operations to enable them to achieve the Objectives of the training provided.

By taking this course, you are stating that you possess the relevant requirements.

Sample Course Slides

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