



## NAVIGATION AND VESSEL INSPECTION CIRCULAR NO. 05-14

- b. In order to implement the 1995 amendments to STCW, the Coast Guard published NVIC 03-00 which included guidance on training requirements for Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boats.
- c. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) amended the STCW Convention and STCW Code on June 25, 2010. These amendments entered into force for all ratifying countries on January 1, 2012..
- d. The Convention is not self-implementing; therefore, the U.S., as a signatory to the STCW Convention, must effect regulatory changes to ensure full implementation of the amendments to the STCW Convention and STCW Code. The U.S. implements these provisions under the Convention and under the authority of United States Code, Titles 33 and 46.
- e. The Coast Guard published a final rule on December 24, 2013 (78 FR 77796) that implements the STCW, including the 2010 amendments. The Coast Guard is publishing this NVIC to provide guidance on complying with the new regulations and is cancelling previous policy. Accordingly, this NVIC cancels those portions of NVIC 03-00 that relate to Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boats.

### 5. DISCUSSION.

- a. Policy regarding the endorsement of Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boats is located in this NVIC. Enclosure (1) describes specific requirements found in the regulations for this endorsement. Enclosure (2) contains the national assessment guidelines for this endorsement. Enclosure (3) provides relevant excerpts from the STCW Convention and STCW Code.
- b. Under 46 CFR 12.617(a)(3), the completion of a course approved or accepted by the Coast Guard is the only way to qualify for an endorsement for Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boats. In January 2000, the IMO Subcommittee on Standards of Training and Watchkeeping validated a model course entitled *Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boats*. This model course provides guidance for the development of training programs and is used by the Coast Guard during the course approval process under 46 CFR 10.402.
- c. Training providers may use the guidelines in Enclosure (2) and/or develop alternatives. Under 46 CFR 10.402, a training institution must submit any deviations from these guidelines to the Coast Guard for approval before use. A training institution submitting a course should state that the guidelines in Enclosure (2) will apply or provide the alternative guidelines it proposes to use.
- d. 46 CFR 12.617(b) addresses the requirements for demonstration of continued proficiency for revalidation of Fast Rescue Boats endorsements. As stated therein, mariners who have at least 1 year (360 days) of sea service within the previous 5 years are considered to have met a portion of this requirement; the remainder must be demonstrated ashore in Coast Guard approved or accepted training. Mariners who do not have 1 year of service in the previous 5 years must either take the original course, or an approved or accepted

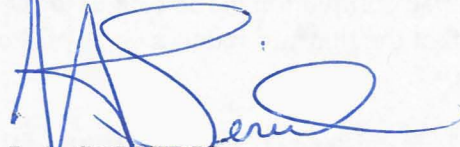
## NAVIGATION AND VESSEL INSPECTION CIRCULAR NO. 05-14

refresher course that includes assessments of continued proficiency in all competencies related to fast rescue boats. [46 CFR 11.303(b)]

- e. To demonstrate continued Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boats, the mariner need only submit the course completion certificate(s) to the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard recommends that the mariner retain a copy of the course completion certificate(s) for his or her records.
6. DISCLAIMER. This guidance is not a substitute for applicable legal requirements, nor is it itself a regulation. It is not intended to nor does it impose legally-binding requirements on any party. It represents the Coast Guard's current thinking on this topic and is issued for guidance purposes to outline methods of best practice for compliance to the applicable law. You can use an alternative approach if the approach satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations.
  7. ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT AND IMPACT CONSIDERATIONS.
    - a. The development of this NVIC and the general policies contained within it have been thoroughly reviewed by the originating office, and are categorically excluded (CE) under current USCG CE # 33 from further environmental analysis, in accordance with Section 2.B.2. and Figure 2-1 of the National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures and Policy for Considering Environmental Impacts, COMDTINST M16475.1 (series). Because this NVIC implements, without substantive change, the applicable Commandant Instruction or other federal agency regulations, procedures, manuals, and other guidance documents, Coast Guard categorical exclusion #33 is appropriate.
    - b. This NVIC will not have any of the following: significant cumulative impacts on the human environment; substantial controversy or substantial change to existing environmental conditions; or inconsistencies with any Federal, State, or local laws or administrative determinations relating to the environment. All future specific actions resulting from the general policies in this NVIC must be individually evaluated for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), DHS and Coast Guard NEPA policy, and compliance with all other environmental mandates.
  8. RECORDS MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS. This NVIC has been thoroughly reviewed during the directives clearance process, and it has been determined there are no further records scheduling requirements, in accordance with Federal Records Act, 44 U.S.C. 3101 et seq., NARA requirements, and Information and Life Cycle Management Manual, COMDTINST M5212.12 (series). This policy does not create significant or substantial change to existing records management requirements.
  9. FORMS/REPORTS. None.

NAVIGATION AND VESSEL INSPECTION CIRCULAR NO. 05-14

10. **QUESTIONS.** All questions regarding implementation of this NVIC should be directed to the Mariner Credentialing Program Policy Division (CG-CVC-4) at (202) 372-2357 or [MMCPolicy@uscg.mil](mailto:MMCPolicy@uscg.mil). To obtain approval for fast rescue boat courses, contact the NMC at (888) 427-5662 or [IAskNMC@uscg.mil](mailto:IAskNMC@uscg.mil).



J. A. SERVIDIO  
Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard  
Assistant Commandant for Prevention Policy

- Encl: (1) Discussion of Qualification Requirements for Endorsement for Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boats  
(2) Assessment Guidelines for Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boats  
(3) Excerpts from STCW Convention and STCW Code

## **DISCUSSION OF QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ENDORSEMENT FOR PROFICIENCY IN FAST RESCUE BOATS**

### **1. GENERAL.**

This enclosure provides guidance for seafarers to qualify for International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended (STCW) endorsements for Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boats (FRB).

### **2. SEA SERVICE, TRAINING, AND DEMONSTRATIONS.**

a. As stated in 46 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 12.617, in order to qualify for an STCW endorsement for Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boats, the applicant must:

- 1) Be not less than 18 years of age;
- 2) Hold an endorsement for Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats Other Than Fast Rescue Boats (PSC) or Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats Other Than Lifeboats and Fast Rescue Boats – Limited (PSC – Limited); and
- 3) Provide evidence of meeting the standard of competence specified in Table A-VI/2-2 of the STCW Code by successful completion of a Coast Guard approved or accepted *Fast Rescue Boat* course.

b. Continued Professional Competence:

- 1) To maintain an STCW endorsement of Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boats, mariners must provide evidence of maintaining the standard of competence as set out in Table A-VI/2-2 of the STCW Code every 5 years as required by 46 CFR 12.617(b).
- 2) The Coast Guard will accept currently valid STCW *Basic Training* and onboard training and experience, through evidence of 1 year of sea service within the last 5 years, as meeting the requirements for continued professional competence.
- 3) Mariners who cannot meet the requirement for 1 year of sea service within the last 5 years are required to complete an approved or accepted *Fast Rescue Boat* course or approved or accepted refresher training.

### **3. GRANDFATHERING AND TRANSITION PROVISIONS.**

- a. Until December 31, 2016, mariners may apply for an original endorsement by providing evidence of meeting the previous requirements for an endorsement for PSC or PSC-Limited.
- b. Until December 31, 2016, mariners may renew this endorsement without additional requirements.

## **Assessment Guidelines for Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boats**

### **Standard of Competence**

As is specified in 46 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 12.617(a)(4), to qualify for an endorsement for Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boats, mariners must meet the standards of competence in Table A-VI/2 of the STCW Code. The table below is adopted from Table A-VI/2 of the STCW Code (found in Enclosure (3)) to assist the candidate and assessor in the demonstration of competency.

### **Practical Skill Demonstrations**

These assessment guidelines establish the conditions under which the assessment will occur, the performance or behavior the candidate is to accomplish, and the standards against which the performance is measured. Training institutions are encouraged to use a checklist in conducting assessments of practical demonstrations of skill. Checklists allow a training institution to ensure that critical tasks are not overlooked when evaluating a candidate's practical demonstration. Training institutions should develop their own checklists for use in conducting the assessments in a complete and structured manner.

*Successful completion of these Assessment Guidelines will provide satisfactory evidence of meeting the standard of competence specified in Section A-VI/2-2 of the STCW Code. The use of these Assessment Guidelines is not mandatory and alternative means of having achieved the standards of competence in the STCW Code will be considered. In accordance with 46 CFR 10.402(e), alternative Assessment Guidelines must be submitted to the National Maritime Center and approved before use.*

**Assessment Guidelines for Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boats**

<b>Task No.</b>	<b>STCW Competence</b>	<b>Knowledge, Understanding, and Proficiency</b>	<b>Performance Condition</b>	<b>Performance Behavior</b>	<b>Performance Standard</b>
1.1.A	Understand the construction, maintenance, repair and outfitting of fast rescue boats	Construction and outfitting of fast rescue boats and individual items of their equipment	In an approved or accepted course,	the candidate demonstrates knowledge of the size and limitations of fast rescue boats and where the individual items in the fast rescue boat are stored.	The candidate: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Correctly identifies and lists the number of the individual items required to be in the fast rescue boat;</li> <li>2. Describes the advantages and disadvantages of inflatable and semi-rigid fast rescue boats;</li> <li>3. Describes the advantages and disadvantages of the different propulsion systems (outboard, inboard, water jet; and</li> <li>4. Describes the towing fittings of the fast rescue boats.</li> </ol>
1.2.A	Understand the construction, maintenance, repair and outfitting of fast rescue boats	Knowledge of the maintenance and emergency repairs of fast rescue boats and the normal inflation and deflation of buoyancy compartments of inflated fast rescue boats	In an approved or accepted course,	the candidate demonstrates knowledge of the maintenance and emergency repairs of fast rescue boats.	The candidate: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Correctly identifies and lists the maintenance items of the fast rescue boat they are using for training, including:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. fueling;</li> <li>b. lubrication; and</li> <li>c. inspection of rescue equipment.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Describes the consequences of the loss of a buoyancy chamber and correctly simulate conducting an emergency repair.</li> </ol>

*Successful completion of these Assessment Guidelines will provide satisfactory evidence of meeting the standard of competence specified in Section A-VI/2-2 of the STCW Code. The use of these Assessment Guidelines is not mandatory and alternative means of having achieved the standards of competence in the STCW Code will be considered. In accordance with 46 CFR 10.402(e), alternative Assessment Guidelines must be submitted to the National Maritime Center and approved before use.*

Task No.	STCW Competence	Knowledge, Understanding, and Proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
2.1.A	Take charge of the launching equipment and appliance as commonly fitted, during launching and recovery	Assessment of the readiness of launching equipment and launching appliance of fast rescue boats for immediate launching and operation	In an approved or accepted course using a SOLAS-compliant fast rescue boat and launching equipment,	the candidate inspects the launching equipment and a fast rescue boat, using the pre-launch checklist.	The candidate determines: that the <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Steps required to prepare the fast rescue boat for launching;</li> <li>2. Number of crewmembers needed to prepare, launch, and operate the boat; and</li> <li>3. Fast rescue boat can be launched within 5 minutes by acting as the person in charge of launching the fast rescue boat during a drill under the supervision of the normally assigned person in charge of the launching of the fast rescue boat.</li> </ol>
2.2.A	Take charge of the launching equipment and appliance as commonly fitted, during launching and recovery	Understand the operation and limitations of the winch, brakes, falls, painters, motion-compensation and other equipment as commonly fitted	In an approved or accepted course,	the candidate describes the use of the fast rescue boat launching equipment.	The candidate describes the use of the fast rescue boat launching equipment including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principle of operation;</li> <li>2. Limits to use, such as:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. maximum list;</li> <li>b. load limits; and</li> <li>c. maximum fall limits;</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. General description, including               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. release mechanism; and</li> <li>b. safety locks to prevent accidental release during drills and maintenance;</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. General maintenance;</li> <li>5. Potential hazards releasing boats;</li> <li>6. Limitations and hazards to recovery;</li> <li>7. Potential hazards when working around stowed fast rescue boats; and</li> <li>8. Proper stowage of fast rescue boats.</li> </ol>

Successful completion of these Assessment Guidelines will provide satisfactory evidence of meeting the standard of competence specified in Table A-VI/2-2 of the STCW Code. The use of these Assessment Guidelines is not mandatory and alternative means of having achieved the standards of competence in the STCW Code will be considered. In accordance with 46 CFR 10.402(e), alternative Assessment Guidelines must be submitted to the National Maritime Center and approved before their use.



Task No.	STCW Competence	Knowledge, Understanding, and Proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
2.3.A	Take charge of the launching equipment and appliance as commonly fitted, during launching and recovery	Safety precautions during launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat	In an approved or accepted course using a SOLAS-compliant fast rescue boat and launching equipment,	the candidate supervises the launch of a fast rescue boat, on board the launching ship, under the supervision of the regularly assigned supervisor.	<p>The candidate ensures the following before, during, and after the launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Crewmembers involved in the shipside operations of launching and recovering a fast rescue boat are wearing the proper PPEs and PFDs;</li> <li>2. Safety precautions, as noted in the manuals for the fast rescue boat and the launching/recovery equipment are followed; and</li> <li>3. Safety precautions as listed in the ship's and company's Safety Management Plan are followed.</li> </ol>
2.4.A	Take charge of the launching equipment and appliance as commonly fitted, during launching and recovery	Launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat in prevailing and adverse weather and sea conditions	In an approved or accepted course,	the candidate describes the launch and recovery of a fast rescue boat in adverse conditions.	<p>The candidate describes methods that the ship's Master may employ to provide a calm area for the operation, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Creating a lee;</li> <li>2. Round turns to knock down adverse wave conditions; and</li> <li>3. Use of light oil.</li> </ol>
3.1.A	Take charge of a fast rescue boat as commonly fitted, during launching and recovery	Assessment of the readiness of fast rescue boats and related equipment for immediate launching and operation	In an approved or accepted course using a SOLAS-compliant fast rescue boat and launching equipment,	the candidate directs the launch of a fast rescue boat.	The candidate directs the launch of the fast rescue boat within 5 minutes.

Successful completion of these Assessment Guidelines will provide satisfactory evidence of meeting the standard of competence specified in Table A-VI/2-2 of the STCW Code. The use of these Assessment Guidelines is not mandatory and alternative means of having achieved the standards of competence in the STCW Code will be considered. In accordance with 46 CFR 10.402(e), alternative Assessment Guidelines must be submitted to the National Maritime Center and approved before their use.

Task No.	STCW Competence	Knowledge, Understanding, and Proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
3.2.A	Take charge of a fast rescue boat as commonly fitted, during launching and recovery	Safety precautions during launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat	In an approved or accepted course using a SOLAS-compliant fast rescue boat and launching equipment,	the candidate supervises the launch of a fast rescue boat, aboard the fast rescue boat.	<p>The candidate ensures the following before, during, and after the launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Crewmembers of the fast rescue boat are wearing the proper PPEs and PFDs;</li> <li>2. Safety precautions, as noted in the manuals for the fast rescue boat and the launching/recovery equipment are followed; and</li> <li>3. Safety precautions as listed in the ship's and company's Safety Management Plan are followed.</li> </ol>
3.3.A	Take charge of a fast rescue boat as commonly fitted, during launching and recovery	Launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat in prevailing and adverse weather and sea conditions.	In an approved or accepted course using a SOLAS-compliant fast rescue boat properly stowed on a single-arm davit, mounted on a pier or a ship, when hearing an order in English to lower the rescue boat,	<p>the candidate commands the launching of a fast rescue boat.*</p> <p><i>*Candidates must be rotated through all assigned tasks to determine if they have achieved competence.</i></p>	<p>The candidate issues the following orders in proper sequence and verifies that they are properly carried out:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove boat cover and securing lines; put in drain plugs if fitted, check fuel- and lube-oil levels, test engine, and make sure all rescue gear is aboard;</li> <li>2. Check that the sea painter is properly attached;</li> <li>3. Secure control lines (if fitted) at rescue boat bow and stern;</li> <li>4. Check that the out drive has been lowered;</li> <li>5. Swing fast rescue boat to the embarkation position; and</li> <li>6. Lower fast rescue boat to water.</li> </ol>

Successful completion of these Assessment Guidelines will provide satisfactory evidence of meeting the standard of competence specified in Table A-VI/2-2 of the STCW Code. The use of these Assessment Guidelines is not mandatory and alternative means of having achieved the standards of competence in the STCW Code will be considered. In accordance with 46 CFR 10.402(e), alternative Assessment Guidelines must be submitted to the National Maritime Center and approved before their use.

Task No.	STCW Competence	Knowledge, Understanding, and Proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
3.3.B	Take charge of a fast rescue boat as commonly fitted, during launching and recovery	Launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat in prevailing and adverse weather and sea conditions.	In an approved or accepted course using a SOLAS-compliant fast rescue boat properly stowed on a single-arm davit, mounted on a pier or a ship, when hearing an order in English to lower the rescue boat,	the candidate, acting as a member of the launch crew, prepares a fast rescue boat for launch.	When ordered, the candidate correctly performs the following tasks: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ready the rescue boat for launch;</li> <li>2. Properly pass and secure the sea painter and control lines (if fitted);</li> <li>3. Lower the outdrive;</li> <li>4. Position the fast rescue boat at the embarkation site; and</li> <li>5. Lower the boat on command.</li> </ol>
3.3.C	Take charge of a fast rescue boat as commonly fitted, during launching and recovery	Launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat in prevailing and adverse weather and sea conditions	In an approved or accepted course using a SOLAS-compliant fast rescue boat, when hearing the order in English to man the rescue boat,	the candidate acts as coxswain and operates the fast rescue boat during launch.* <i>*Candidates should be rotated through all assigned tasks to determine if they have achieved competence.</i>	The candidate properly: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Boards the fast rescue boat;</li> <li>2. When afloat, starts the engine;</li> <li>3. Orders the release of the releasing hook, after control line (if fitted), forward control line (if fitted), and painter; and</li> <li>4. Departs the ship's side at a shallow angle.</li> </ol>
3.3.D	Take charge of a fast rescue boat as commonly fitted, during launching and recovery	Launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat in prevailing and adverse weather and sea conditions	In an approved or accepted course using a SOLAS-compliant fast rescue boat, when hearing the order in English to man the rescue boat,	the candidate acts as a member of the fast rescue boat crew and carries out all commands during launch.	When ordered the candidate properly: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Boards the fast rescue boat;</li> <li>2. Releases the releasing hook, after control line (if fitted), forward control line (if fitted), and painter; and</li> <li>3. Fends off as ordered.</li> </ol>

Successful completion of these Assessment Guidelines will provide satisfactory evidence of meeting the standard of competence specified in Table A-VI/2-2 of the STCW Code. The use of these Assessment Guidelines is not mandatory and alternative means of having achieved the standards of competence in the STCW Code will be considered. In accordance with 46 CFR 10.402(e), alternative Assessment Guidelines must be submitted to the National Maritime Center and approved before their use.

Task No.	STCW Competence	Knowledge, Understanding, and Proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
3.3.E	Take charge of a fast rescue boat as commonly fitted, during launching and recovery	Launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat in prevailing and adverse weather and sea conditions	In an approved or accepted course given a SOLAS-compliant fast rescue boat in the water connected to the fall of a single-arm davit, mounted on a pier or a ship, when hearing the orders in English to recover and stow a rescue boat,	the candidate acts as a member of the recovery crew and recovers and stows the fast rescue boat.	When ordered, the candidate correctly performs the following tasks: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lower the painter and control lines to the appropriate height above the water;</li> <li>2. Tend the forward and after control lines (if fitted);</li> <li>3. Lower the hook;</li> <li>4. Hoist the rescue boat to the disembarkation position while tending the control lines (if fitted);</li> <li>5. Disembark the rescue boat crew;</li> <li>6. Swing the rescue boat to stowed position; and</li> <li>7. Properly secure the rescue boat.</li> </ol>
3.3.F	Take charge of a fast rescue boat as commonly fitted, during launching and recovery	Launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat in prevailing and adverse weather and sea conditions	In an approved or accepted course using a SOLAS-compliant fast rescue boat in the water and connected to the fall of a single-arm davit, mounted on a pier or a ship, when hearing the order in English to return to the ship,	the candidate operates the fast rescue boat during recovery.*  *Candidates should be rotated through all assigned tasks to determine if they have achieved competence.	The candidate properly: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Positions the fast rescue boat under the sea painter eye;</li> <li>2. Directs the crew to grab the sea painter;</li> <li>3. Rides the painter until the boat is in the appropriate position;</li> <li>4. Directs the crew to secure the sea painter on his/her command;</li> <li>5. Directs the crew to secure the forward and after control lines (if fitted);</li> <li>6. Directs the crew to secure the releasing hook to the boat bridle; and</li> <li>7. Secures the engine properly as safety requires.</li> </ol>

Successful completion of these Assessment Guidelines will provide satisfactory evidence of meeting the standard of competence specified in Table A-VI/2-2 of the STCW Code. The use of these Assessment Guidelines is not mandatory and alternative means of having achieved the standards of competence in the STCW Code will be considered. In accordance with 46 CFR 10.402(e), alternative Assessment Guidelines must be submitted to the National Maritime Center and approved before their use.

Task No.	STCW Competence	Knowledge, Understanding, and Proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
3.3.G	Take charge of a fast rescue boat as commonly fitted, during launching and recovery	Launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat in prevailing and adverse weather and sea conditions	In an approved or accepted course using a SOLAS-compliant fast rescue boat in the water and connected to the fall of a single-arm davit, mounted on a pier or a ship, when hearing the order in English to return to the ship,	the candidate commands the recovery and stowage of the fast rescue boat.*  <i>*Candidates must be rotated through all assigned tasks to determine if they have achieved competence.</i>	The candidate issues the following orders in proper sequence and verifies that they are properly carried out: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lower the painter and control lines to the appropriate height above the water;</li> <li>2. Tend the forward and after control lines (if fitted);</li> <li>3. Lower the hook when he/she signals for it;</li> <li>4. Hoist the boat to the disembarkation position while tending the control lines (if fitted)*;</li> <li>5. Disembark the boat crew;</li> <li>6. Swing the boat to its stowed position; and</li> <li>7. Properly secure the boat.</li> </ol> <i>*If it is unsafe for the rescue boat crew to ride the rescue boat from the water to the disembarkation position this task should be simulated.</i>
4.1.A	Take charge of a fast rescue boat after launching	Particular characteristics, facilities and limitations of fast rescue boats	In an approved or accepted course using a SOLAS-compliant fast rescue boat,	the candidate demonstrates the leadership skills needed to take charge of a fast rescue boat.	The candidate demonstrates the leadership skills needed to take charge of a fast rescue boat by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Correctly identifying the number of crewmembers needed to safely launch, operate, and recover the fast rescue boat;</li> <li>2. Instructing the fast rescue boat crewmembers in their duties;</li> <li>3. Supervising the crewmembers in the simulated rescue of someone in the water; and</li> <li>4. Simulate rigging the fast rescue boat to tow a liferaft.</li> </ol>

Successful completion of these Assessment Guidelines will provide satisfactory evidence of meeting the standard of competence specified in Table A-VI/2-2 of the STCW Code. The use of these Assessment Guidelines is not mandatory and alternative means of having achieved the standards of competence in the STCW Code will be considered. In accordance with 46 CFR 10.402(e), alternative Assessment Guidelines must be submitted to the National Maritime Center and approved before their use.

Task No.	STCW Competence	Knowledge, Understanding, and Proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
4.2.A	Take charge of a fast rescue boat after launching	Procedures for the righting of a capsized fast rescue boat	In a written examination during an approved or accepted course,	the candidate describes the procedures to right a capsized fast rescue boat as carried aboard.	<p>The candidate describes the procedures to right a capsized fast rescue boat as carried aboard, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maneuvers and conditions that may capsize the fast rescue boat;</li> <li>2. Precautions to take to prevent capsizing the fast rescue boat;</li> <li>3. Specialized equipment on board the fast rescue boat, if so equipped, that can be used to right the capsized fast rescue boat: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. if the boat is self righting, simulating the use of the self righting equipment;</li> <li>b. if the boat requires the use of leverage equipment, the location of that equipment on the boat and perform its assembly and use;</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Equipment on board the fast rescue boat that may be adapted to right the fast rescue boat;</li> <li>5. Difficulties that may be encountered when righting the fast rescue boat such as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. size of the fast rescue boat; and</li> <li>b. damage to the engines; and</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. Rigging the fast rescue boat in the event that it is unable to be righted so that the crew can use the capsized fast rescue boat as flotation.</li> </ol>

*Successful completion of these Assessment Guidelines will provide satisfactory evidence of meeting the standard of competence specified in Table A-VI/2-2 of the STCW Code. The use of these Assessment Guidelines is not mandatory and alternative means of having achieved the standards of competence in the STCW Code will be considered. In accordance with 46 CFR 10.402(e), alternative Assessment Guidelines must be submitted to the National Maritime Center and approved before their use.*

Task No.	STCW Competence	Knowledge, Understanding, and Proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
4.3.A	Take charge of a fast rescue boat after launching	How to handle a fast rescue boat in prevailing and adverse weather and sea conditions	In an approved or accepted course,	the candidate demonstrates the knowledge needed to handle a fast rescue boat in adverse weather conditions.	<p>The candidate describes the action to be taken;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To maintain stability in a rough sea and heavy wind including:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the effects of wind;</li> <li>b. the advantage of power management when operating in adverse weather conditions;</li> <li>c. operating at night; and</li> <li>d. the dangers of high wind and seas upon fast rescue craft;</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Escape or mitigate the effects of adverse weather in the event of:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. broaching;</li> <li>b. following seas; and</li> <li>c. excessive set and drift.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
4.4.A	Take charge of a fast rescue boat after launching	Navigational and safety equipment available in a fast rescue boat	In an approved or accepted course,	the candidate demonstrates knowledge of the navigational equipment aboard a fast rescue boat.	<p>The candidate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describes the use of:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. portable GPS equipment;</li> <li>b. portable radio equipment; and</li> <li>c. mounted compass; and</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Demonstrates the use of:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the GPS and radio by getting a position from the rescue boat's mother ship, determining an intercept course to the mother ship; and</li> <li>b. the compass by steering that course to the agreed upon intercept position.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

Successful completion of these Assessment Guidelines will provide satisfactory evidence of meeting the standard of competence specified in Table A-VI/2-2 of the STCW Code. The use of these Assessment Guidelines is not mandatory and alternative means of having achieved the standards of competence in the STCW Code will be considered. In accordance with 46 CFR 10.402(e), alternative Assessment Guidelines must be submitted to the National Maritime Center and approved before their use.

Task No.	STCW Competence	Knowledge, Understanding, and Proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
4.5.A	Take charge of a fast rescue boat after launching	Search patterns and environmental factors affecting their execution	In an approved or accepted course,	the candidate demonstrates knowledge of search patterns.	<p>The candidate describes search patterns, including the:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Equipment on board the fast rescue boat that may be programmed to develop and execute search patterns such as GPS;</li> <li>2. Different search patterns that may be used such as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the expanding square search pattern;</li> <li>b. the parallel track search pattern; and</li> <li>c. a coordinated search with the fast rescue boat and the mother ship;</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Value of communications with other rescuers or the mother ship;</li> <li>4. Effect of weather on the search pattern; and</li> <li>5. Effect of height of eye, weather conditions, and target visibility on board the fast rescue boat vs. the mother ship.</li> </ol>

*Successful completion of these Assessment Guidelines will provide satisfactory evidence of meeting the standard of competence specified in Table A-VI/2-2 of the STCW Code. The use of these Assessment Guidelines is not mandatory and alternative means of having achieved the standards of competence in the STCW Code will be considered. In accordance with 46 CFR 10.402(e), alternative Assessment Guidelines must be submitted to the National Maritime Center and approved before their use.*



Task No.	STCW Competence	Knowledge, Understanding, and Proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
5.1.A	Operate a fast rescue boat engine	Methods of starting and operating a fast rescue boat engine and its accessories	In an approved or accepted course using a SOLAS-compliant fast rescue boat equipped with an engine,	the candidate starts and operates the fast rescue boats engine.	<p>The candidate ensures that the:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Oil and cooling water levels are in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations;</li> <li>2. Fuel used is compatible with the type of engine being used (gas, diesel, etc.);</li> <li>3. Actions taken to start the engine are in accordance with the operator's manual for the type of engine, hand crank, electric, or hydraulic; and</li> <li>4. Engine is properly operated in forward, neutral, and reverse gears.</li> </ol>

*Successful completion of these Assessment Guidelines will provide satisfactory evidence of meeting the standard of competence specified in Table A-VI/2-2 of the STCW Code. The use of these Assessment Guidelines is not mandatory and alternative means of having achieved the standards of competence in the STCW Code will be considered. In accordance with 46 CFR 10.402(e), alternative Assessment Guidelines must be submitted to the National Maritime Center and approved before their use.*

Excerpts from the International Convention on Standards of Training,  
Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended

and

Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping Code, as amended

Notice: These excerpts are provided for background information. By themselves, they do not constitute Coast Guard policy.

**The Manila Amendments to the annex to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978**

**Chapter I**  
General provisions

**Regulation I/6**

*Training and assessment*

Each party shall ensure that:

- .1 the training and assessment of seafarers, as required under the Convention, are administered, supervised and monitored in accordance with the provisions of section A-I/6 of the STCW Code; and
- .2 those responsible for the training and assessment of competence of seafarers, as required under the Convention, are appropriately qualified in accordance with the provisions of section A-I/6 of the STCW Code for the type and level of training and assessment involved.

**Chapter VI**  
Emergency, occupational safety, security,  
medical care and survival functions

**Regulation VI/2**

*Mandatory minimum requirements for the issue of certificates of proficiency in survival craft, rescue boats and fast rescue boats*

\* \* \* \* \*

- 2 Every candidate for a certificate of proficiency in fast rescue boats shall:
  - .1 Be the holder of a certificate of proficiency in survival craft and rescue boats other than fast rescue boats;
  - .2 Have attended an approved training course; and
  - .3 Meet the standard of competence for certificates of proficiency in fast rescue boats, set out in section A-VI/2, paragraphs 7 to 10 of the STCW Code.

**The Manila Amendments to the Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping  
(STCW) Code**

**Chapter I**

Standards regarding general provisions

**Section A-I/6**

*Training and assessment*

**1** Each Party shall ensure that all training and assessment of seafarers for certification under the Convention is:

- .1** structured in accordance with written programmes, including such methods and media of delivery, procedures, and course material as are necessary to achieve the prescribed standard of competence; and
- .2** conducted, monitored, evaluated and supported by persons qualified in accordance with paragraphs 4, 5 and 6.

**2** Persons conducting in-service training or assessment on board ship shall only do so when such training or assessment will not adversely affect the normal operation of the ship and they can dedicate their time and attention to training or assessment.

**Qualifications of instructors, supervisors and assessors\***

**3** Each Party shall ensure that instructors, supervisors and assessors are appropriately qualified for the particular types and levels of training or assessment of competence of seafarers either on board or ashore, as required under the Convention, in accordance with the provisions of this section.

**In-service training**

**4** Any person conducting in-service training of a seafarer, either on board or ashore, which is intended to be used in qualifying for certification under the Convention, shall:

- .1** have an appreciation of the training programme and an understanding of the specific training objectives for the particular type of training being conducted;
- .2** be qualified in the task for which training is being conducted; and
- .3** if conducting training using a simulator:
  - .3.1** have received appropriate guidance in instructional techniques involving the use of simulators; and
  - .3.2** have gained practical operational experience on the particular type of simulator being used.

---

\* The relevant IMO Model Course(s) may be of assistance in the preparation of courses.

5 Any person responsible for the supervision of in-service training of a seafarer intended to be used in qualifying for certification under the Convention shall have a full understanding of the training programme and the specific objectives for each type of training being conducted.

**Assessment of competence**

6 Any person conducting in-service assessment of competence of a seafarer, either on board or ashore, which is intended to be used in qualifying for certification under the Convention, shall:

- .1 have an appropriate level of knowledge and understanding of the competence to be assessed;
- .2 be qualified in the task for which the assessment is being made;
- .3 have received appropriate guidance in assessment methods and practice;
- .4 have gained practical assessment experience; and
- .5 if conducting assessment involving the use of simulators, have gained practical assessment experience on the particular type of simulator under the supervision and to the satisfaction of an experienced assessor.

**Training and assessment within an institution**

7 Each Party which recognizes a course of training, a training institution, or a qualification granted by a training institution, as part of its requirements for the issue of a certificate required under the Convention, shall ensure that the qualifications and experience of instructors and assessors are covered in the application of the quality standard provisions of section A-I/8. Such qualification, experience and application of quality standards shall incorporate appropriate training in instructional techniques, and training and assessment methods and practice, and shall comply with all applicable requirements of paragraphs 4 to 6.

**Chapter VI**

Standards regarding emergency, occupational safety, security,  
medical care and survival functions

**Section A-VI/2**

*Mandatory minimum requirements for the issue of certificates of proficiency in survival craft, rescue boats and fast rescue boats*

\* \* \* \* \*

**Proficiency in fast rescue boats**

**Standard of competence**

7 Every candidate for a certificate of proficiency in fast rescue boats shall be required to demonstrate competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in column 1 of table A-VI/2-2.

**8** The level of knowledge of the subjects listed in column 2 of table A-VI/2-2 shall be sufficient to enable the candidate to launch and take charge of a fast rescue boat in emergency situations\*.

**9** Training and experience to achieve the necessary level of theoretical knowledge, understanding and proficiency shall take account of the guidance given in part B of this Code.

**10** Every candidate for certification shall be required to provide evidence of having achieved the required standard of competence through:

- .1** demonstration of competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in column 1 of table A-VI/2-2, in accordance with the methods for demonstrating competence and the criteria for evaluating competence tabulated in columns 3 and 4 of that table; and
- .2** examination or continuous assessment as part of an approved training programme covering the material set out in column 2 of table A-VI/2-2.

**11** Seafarers qualified in accordance with paragraph 10 in fast rescue boats shall be required, every five years, to provide evidence of having maintained the required standards of competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in column 1 of table A-VI/2-2.

**12** Parties may accept onboard training and experience for maintaining the required standard of competence of table A-VI/2-2, in the following areas:

- .1** Take charge of a fast rescue boat during and after launch:
  - .1.1** control safe launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat;
  - .1.2** handle a fast rescue boat in prevailing weather and sea conditions;
  - .1.3** use communications and signalling equipment between the fast rescue boat and a helicopter and a ship;
  - .1.4** use the emergency equipment carried; and
  - .1.5** carry out search patterns, taking account of environmental factors.

---

\* The relevant IMO Model Course(s) may be of assistance in the preparation of courses.

**Table A-VI/2-2**  
*Specification of the minimum standard of competence in fast rescue boats*

<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Competence</b>	<b>Knowledge, understanding and proficiency</b>	<b>Methods for demonstrating competence</b>	<b>Criteria for evaluating competence</b>
Understand the construction, maintenance, repair and outfitting of fast rescue boats	<p>Construction and outfitting of fast rescue boats and individual items of their equipment</p> <p>Knowledge of the maintenance and emergency repairs of fast rescue boats and the normal inflation and deflation of buoyancy compartments of inflated fast rescue boats</p>	Assessment of evidence obtained from practical instruction	<p>The method of carrying out routine maintenance and emergency repairs</p> <p>Identify components and required equipment for fast rescue boats</p>
Take charge of the launching equipment and appliance as commonly fitted, during launching and recovery	<p>Assessment of the readiness of launching equipment and launching appliance of fast rescue boats for immediate launching and operation</p> <p>Understand the operation and limitations of the winch, brakes, falls, painters, motion-compensation and other equipment as commonly fitted</p> <p>Safety precautions during launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat</p> <p>Launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat in prevailing and adverse weather and sea conditions</p>	Assessment of evidence obtained from practical demonstration of ability to control safe launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat, with equipment as fitted	Ability to prepare and take charge of the launching equipment and appliance during launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat
Take charge of a fast rescue boat as commonly fitted, during launching and recovery	<p>Assessment of the readiness of fast rescue boats and related equipment for immediate launching and operation</p> <p>Safety precautions during launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat</p> <p>Launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat in prevailing and adverse weather and sea conditions</p>	Assessment of evidence obtained from practical demonstration of ability to conduct safe launching and recovery of a fast rescue boat, with equipment as fitted	Ability to take charge of a fast rescue boat during launching and recovery

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Competence	Knowledge, understanding and proficiency	Methods for demonstrating competence	Criteria for evaluating competence
Take charge of a fast rescue boat after launching	<p>Particular characteristics, facilities and limitations of fast rescue boats</p> <p>Procedures for the righting of a capsized fast rescue boat</p> <p>How to handle a fast rescue boat in prevailing and adverse weather and sea conditions</p> <p>Navigational and safety equipment available in a fast rescue boat</p> <p>Search patterns and environmental factors affecting their execution</p>	<p>Assessment of evidence obtained from practical demonstration of ability to:</p> <p>.1 right a capsized fast rescue boat</p> <p>.2 handle a fast rescue boat in prevailing weather and sea conditions</p> <p>.3 swim in special equipment</p> <p>.4 use communications and signalling equipment between the fast rescue boat and a helicopter and a ship</p> <p>.5 use the emergency equipment carried</p> <p>.6 recover a casualty from the water and transfer a casualty to a rescue helicopter or to a ship or to a place of safety</p> <p>.7 carry out search patterns, taking account of environmental factors</p>	Demonstration of operation of fast rescue boats within equipment limitations in prevailing weather conditions
Operate a fast rescue boat engine	Methods of starting and operating a fast rescue boat engine and its accessories	Assessment of evidence obtained from practical demonstration of ability to start and operate a fast rescue boat engine	Engine is started and operated as required for manoeuvring



**GUIDANCE REGARDING PROVISIONS OF THE ANNEX TO  
THE STCW CONVENTION  
PART B**

**Chapter I**

Guidance regarding general provisions

**Section B-I/6**

*Guidance regarding training and assessment*

**Qualifications of instructors and assessors**

**1** Each Party should ensure that instructors and assessors are appropriately qualified and experienced for the particular types and levels of training or assessment of competence of seafarers, as required under the Convention, in accordance with the guidelines in this section.

**In-service training and assessment**

**2** Any person, on board or ashore, conducting in-service training of a seafarer intended to be used in qualifying for certification under the Convention should have received appropriate guidance in instructional techniques\*.

**3** Any person responsible for the supervision of in-service training of a seafarer intended to be used in qualifying for certification under the Convention should have appropriate knowledge of instructional techniques and of training methods and practice.

**4** Any person, on board or ashore, conducting an in-service assessment of the competence of a seafarer intended to be used in qualifying for certification under the Convention should have:

- .1** received appropriate guidance in assessment methods and practice\* ; and
- .2** gained practical assessment experience under the supervision and to the satisfaction of an experienced assessor.

**5** Any person responsible for the supervision of the in-service assessment of competence of a seafarer intended to be used in qualifying for certification under the Convention should have a full understanding of the assessment system, assessment methods and practice\*.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Chapter VI**

Guidance regarding emergency, occupational safety, security,  
medical care and survival functions

**Section B-VI/2**

*Guidance regarding certification for proficiency in survival craft, rescue boats and fast rescue boats*

**1** Before training is commenced, the requirement of medical fitness, particularly regarding eyesight and hearing, should be met by the candidate.

---

\* The relevant IMO Model Course(s) may be of assistance in the preparation of courses.

**2** The training should be relevant to the provisions of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), as amended.

**3** Parties may also accept onboard training and experience (such as participation in drills) for maintaining the required standard of competence of table A-VI/2-1, in the areas outlined in section A-VI/2, paragraphs 6.1.2, 6.1.3, 6.1.4, 6.2.1, and 12.1.5. Administrations should bear in mind that onboard training in these areas can only be carried out under good weather conditions and port regulations permitting.