

**COMMERCIAL FISHING SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CFSAC)**  
**Training Standards**

**TASK STATEMENT 16-01 ACTION SHEET**

**TASK TITLE:**        TRAINING STANDARDS for INDIVIDUALS IN CHARGE of COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSELS

**BACKGROUND:**

The Coast Guard continually seeks way to improve safety within the commercial fishing industry. The Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Committee is a significant participant in this effort by providing recommendations for improving safety and program initiatives. Past recommendations from the Committee, casualty investigation reports, and other feedback have often addressed training and competencies for operators.

Section 604 of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010 amended various sections of Title 46 of the U.S. Code, Chapter 45. One such provision, adds new requirements for Uninspected Commercial Fishing Industry Vessels. In Section 4502 - Safety Standards, a new subsection (g) required individuals in charge of a vessel to pass a training program covering several competencies and be issued a certificate for the training. Those individuals must also complete refresher training every five years. The Coast Guard must develop/approve the training program and implement regulations for the training requirement.

In light of this new requirement, the Coast Guard sought advice and recommendations from the Committee. A subcommittee/working group was established for the task, and a list of objectives was provided to the Coast Guard for each of the required competencies, which have been refined over the past three meetings.

**DESCRIPTION OF TASK:**

In a continuation and review of deliberations from meetings in 2011 through 2015 for Tasks 11-05, 13-01, 14-01, and 15-01, the Coast Guard seeks confirmation and adequacy of the goals, objectives, and syllabus recommended to develop a standardized curriculum outline and/or training modules for a competency-based training requirements for individuals in charge of commercial fishing vessels as listed here:

- Drill Instructor (Emergency Drills), Personal Survival
- First Aid / CPR (Emergency Medical Care)
- Navigation / Collision Avoidance
- Watch-keeping
- Seamanship and Pollution Prevention
- Vessel Stability
- Damage Control
- Fire Fighting and Prevention
- Fatigue
- Weather

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Further, the Coast Guard seeks final recommendations on the course(s) outline for required operator competencies training and any additional training the Committee believes is warranted. It is the intention of the Coast Guard to then submit the outlines to the National Maritime Center to consider establishing the outlines as a national standard curriculum for the training, which would help facilitate individual training organizations to develop and submit training courses for acceptance to meet the operator training requirements. The Committee is also asked to provide information or recommendations on training organizations or other qualified education entities that could be contacted and engaged to offer such accepted training.

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**Forwarded for Committee Consideration:** \_\_\_\_\_  
JENNIFER F. WILLIAMS, Captain, USCG  
Designated Federal Officer (DFO)  
Date Forwarded: \_\_\_\_\_

**Committee Action:** \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Chairman, CFSAC  
Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

**Working Group Chair**  
  
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