




CSNCOE Field Notice 02-2017  
16715/17-0002  
12 June 2017

## MEMORANDUM

From: R. J. Jenkins, CDR  
CSNCOE

To: Distribution

Thru: CG-5P-TI 

Subj: CSNCOE FIELD NOTICE - CERTIFICATION PROCESS FOR HIGH SPEED  
CRAFT (HSC) VESSELS

Ref: (a) SOLAS, 2014 Consolidated Edition  
(b) 2000 High Speed Craft (HSC) Code, 2008 Edition  
(c) Marine Safety Manual Volume II, COMDINST M16000.7B

1. PURPOSE: This field notice provides amplifying guidance for conducting port state control examinations on foreign flagged High Speed Craft (HSC) vessels. The standards found in references (a) and (b) shall be used as the applicable regulations when conducting an examination of any foreign flagged HSC.

2. OVERVIEW: The Coast Guard shall consider the process for issuing a Certificate of Compliance to HSCs the same as for any other foreign passenger vessel, as defined by SOLAS. Owners/operators shall comply with all the same requirements set forth in the Marine Safety Manual, Volume II, Section D, Chapter 7, for the certification of foreign passenger vessels.

When conducting the plan review and onboard examinations, the HSC Code shall be applied as a complete set of comprehensive requirements. The Code contains requirements for the design and construction of HSCs engaged on international voyages, the equipment which shall be provided, and the conditions for their operation and maintenance. The basic aim of the Code is to set levels of safety which are equivalent to those of conventional ships required by reference (a) and the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966 (Load Line Convention) by the application of construction and equipment standards in conjunction with strict operational controls.

HSCs certified under the Code shall also be required to comply with the applicable requirements found in MARPOL, ISM and ISPS Codes as well as all applicable U.S. Code of Federal Regulations requirements.

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PROCESS FOR HIGH SPEED CRAFT (HSC)  
VESSELS

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Comments or questions regarding this field notice should be directed to LCDR Eric Jesionowski, who can be reached by e-mail at [eric.s.jesionowski@uscg.mil](mailto:eric.s.jesionowski@uscg.mil) or by phone at 954-767-2140 ext. 1001.

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