MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 9-7-98

Subject: Guidelines in the issuance of Restricted Operator's Certificate

In compliance with ITU Radio Regulations, Chapter NIX Article 55 and the provisions of Section IV-2, STCW Convention of 1995 on the issuance and use of Global Maritime Distress Safety System (GMDSS) Certificate, the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) pursuant to the powers vested upon it hereby promulgates the guidelines for training, qualifications, examination and the issuance of Restricted Operator's Certificate.

1. A holder of a Restricted Operator's Certificate (ROC) shall be one who has qualified and passed the required NTC examination and has shown knowledge and professional competence and qualification in the following aspects:

1.0 Practical knowledge of the operation of the GMDSS sub-systems and equipment which is required while the ship is sailing within the range of VHF coast stations;

1.0 Ability to send and receive correctly by radiotelephone;

1.0 Knowledge of the regulations applying to radiotelephony communications specifically those relating to the safety of life;

1.0 An elementary knowledge of of the working languages of the ITU. Candidates should be able to express themselves satisfactorily in that language both orally and in writing.

1. General Qualifications of an applicant for Restricted Operator's Certificate:

1.0 He must be a Filipino citizen at least 21 years old and of good moral character.

1.0 He must have attended the prescribed training course on ROC offered by duly accredited radio training school.

1.0 He must be a licensed deck officer.

1. Examination Elements - The ROC examination shall comprise of the following elements:

1.0 Element 1 (Ship Radio Telephony) - Basic theory to understanding voice VHF telephony.

1.0 Code Examination - Ability to transmit the Alphabet by morse code through keyer or voice.

1. Passing Grade - An applicant for Restricted Operator's Certificate is required to pass the above-mentioned element and code examination with a passing grade of 70% in Element 1, provided that no rating shall be below 50% in any element and a grade of 100% in the Code examination.
1. An applicant who passes in the examination but fails to secure the ROC Certificate within one (1) year from date he is advised of the result of his or her examination, will not be issued a certificate without taking anew the examination.

1. Fees

6.1 Examination Fee - P 50.00
6.2 ROC Certificate Fee per year - P 150.00
6.3 Duplication Fee - 100.00

All applicants shall adhere strictly to the herein prescribed guidelines and any misinterpretation made by an applicant before the commission shall be a ground for the revocation or suspension of the certificate issued and/or the imposition of the appropriate penalties in accordance with law.

All existing memoranda, guidelines, circulars, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this circular are repealed or amended accordingly.

This circular may be revised, revoked or amended as necessary in accordance with law and shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in a newspaper of general circulation, provided further, that at least three (3) certified true copies thereof shall be filed with the UP Law Center.

Quezon City, Philippines, July 20, 1998.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

PONCIANO V. CRUZ, JR.
Commissioner

ORIGINAL SIGNED

ROBERTO L. DUQUE
Deputy Commissioner