Sjøfartsdirektoratet
Norwegian Maritime Authority

Circular - Series R

Circular Series R (Regulations) supersedes previous Series F.
In the new Series R, relevant legal amendments and amendments to conventions are also published.

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The Circular should be entered into a special diagram or as appropriate in the latest editions of relevant NMA publications and kept until the next editions.

Regulation concerning amendments to the Regulations on qualifications and certificates for seafarers and to EEA references in the legal basis of regulations implementing Directive (EU) 2022/993

1. Introduction

The Norwegian Maritime Authority has laid down amendments to the Regulations on qualifications and certificates for seafarers and to EEA references in the legal basis of regulations implementing Directive (EU) 2022/993.

The European Parliament and the Council have adopted a new Directive on the minimum level of training of seafarers, (EU) 2022/993. The new legislative act codifies Directive 2008/106/EC, incorporating amendments from Directive 2012/35/EU and Directive (EU) 2019/1159, consolidating these three directives into one new directive. The purpose is to make the rules more easily accessible. Documents from the European Parliament's plenary session on 5 April 2022 show that the Directive is a codification of the existing directives with no changes to the content.

Directive (EU) 2022/993 was adopted for incorporation into the EEA Agreement on 27 October 2023, with an entry into force date of 28 October 2023.

2. Regulatory amendment

Directive (EU) 2022/933 has no substantive effect on Norwegian legislation. However, it necessitated an update of the reference to Directive 2008/106/EC in the Regulations of 22 December 2011 No. 1523 on qualifications and certificates for seafarers (Qualification Regulations) section 84 second paragraph. The only modification made is the directive number from 2008/106/EC to (EU) 2022/933.

Since there are no changes in the content affecting the industry or the authorities, it was decided that the amendment could be implemented as an editorial change without prior consultation. This Regulation enters into force immediately.

3. EEA references

Pursuant to circular G-148/92, references must be made to all EEA legal acts that are incorporated into Norwegian legislation. As for Regulations, this involves referring to the EEA Agreement and the legal act of the EEA reference of the Regulation.

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In connection with the regulatory amendment to the Qualification Regulations, updates have also been made to the EEA references in the Regulations that implemented Directive 2008/106/EC, as amended, and now implement Directive (EU) 2022/993. This applies to both the regulations that have previously included a reference to Directive 2008/106/EC and those that, inadvertently, did not include such a reference.

The Regulations currently containing an EEA reference to Directive (EU) 2022/993 include:

- Regulations of 22 December 2011 No. 1523 on qualifications and certificates for seafarers
- Regulations of 27 April 1999 No. 537 on watchkeeping on passenger ships and cargo ships
- Regulations of 20 March 2001 No. 373 on the control of ro-ro ferries and passenger high-speed craft in regular service, regardless of flag
- Regulations of 26 June 2007 No. 705 on hours of work and rest on board Norwegian passenger and cargo ships, etc.
- Regulations of 18 June 2009 No. 666 on the manning of Norwegian ships
- Regulations of 5 June 2014 No. 805 on the medical examination of employees on Norwegian ships and mobile offshore units
- Regulations of 24 November 2014 No. 1458 on port State control

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This document has been electronically approved, and therefore does not contain handwritten signatures.