APPLICATIONS FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENDORSEMENT (COE) FOR HOLDERS OF ELECTRO-TECHNICAL OFFICER (ETO) CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY ISSUED BY A FOREIGN ADMINISTRATION

1. The Manila Amendments to the STCW Convention, which came into force on 1 Jan 2012, has introduced a new grade of Certificate of Competency (CoC) as Electro-Technical Officers (ETO) under STCW Regulation III/6. The transitional provisions of STCW Convention allowed an Administration until 1 Jan 2017 to enforce the requirement of ETO.

2. Holders of ETO CoC issued by a foreign administration require a Certificate of Endorsement (COE) issued by MPA (Flag Administration’s endorsement). This is similar to the requirements for holders of deck officer and marine engineer officer CoCs that are issued by a foreign Administration. From 1 Jan 2017 onwards, an ETO who does not have the appropriate CoC and issued with a COE to recognise the CoC will not be allowed to be engaged on Singapore ships.

3. Application for Certificate of Endorsement (COE) for ETO will be made available on 1st Aug 2016 via Marinet under “Application for Certificate of Endorsement”.

4. Companies who have not subscribed to Marinet are urged to do so to ensure timely processing of their COE applications. To apply for a Marinet Access, please visit MPA’s website at: http://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/e-services-forms/e-services.
Annex to this circular contains a list of frequently asked questions relating to ETO and application for COE. Any other queries regarding this circular should be directed to any of the following officers of MPA:

- The Seafarers Management Department (Email: mmo_mpa@mpa.gov.sg; Tel: +65 6375 6224) and/or other officers in the department as follows:
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TAN SUAN JOW
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Frequently-Asked-Questions (FAQs) relating to Electro-Technical Officer (ETO) and Electro-Technical Rating (ETR).

Q1. Will the existing Electrical Officers without Certificate of Competency (CoC) be allowed to continue to work on Singapore ships?

Existing Electrical Officers can sail until 31 Dec 2016 under the transitional provisions of STCW Convention. From 1 Jan 2017, all Electrical Officers (also called Electrical Engineer in some companies) should obtain a CoC as ETO as per STCW Regulation III/6 from their national administration. The 2010 amendments to STCW Convention and Code has provisions for maritime administrations to recognise earlier training regime and issue new ETO CoC after completing bridging courses and relevant assessments.

Q2. Who is an Electro-Technical Rating (ETR)?

The Electro-Technical Rating (ETR) is a rating assisting the Chief Engineer or ETO in performing electrical duties. They are known as Electricians. From 1 Jan 2017, such ratings should hold a certificate of proficiency as ETR issued under STCW Regulation III/7. It is not necessary to apply for flag state COE for ratings with certificate of proficiency as ETR.

Q3. Will the Safe Manning Document be amended to include the capacity of ETO or ETR?

The capacity for ETO or ETR will not be stated on the Safe Manning Document as the requirement to carry a ETO or ETR is not mandatory. The company will assess whether there is a need to carry an ETO or ETR based on the ship’s operational requirements. However, if they are to be carried, for officers joining as an ETO (previously known as Electrical Officer), they are required to possess the ETO CoC issued under III/6 and issued with Flag State COE prior deploying them on board Singapore registered ships. These two capacities are included under the “Other Engine Ratings/Personnel”.

Q4. I am a Singaporean and have been working as an Electrical Officer or Electrician for many years. How do I obtain a CoC as ETO.

All Singaporeans and permanent residents of Singapore who have served as Electrical Officers for at least 12 months within the preceding 5 years can qualify for CoC as ETO upon attending bridging courses. For details, please refer to Shipping Circular No. 15 of 2016 - Requirements for Certificate of Competency as Electro-Technical Officer (COC-ETO) and Certificate of Proficiency as Electro-Technical Rating (COP-ETR)
Q5 How can I obtain a Certificate of Proficiency as ETR?

All Singaporean and permanent residents of Singapore who have served as an ETR for 12 months in the preceding 5 years can qualify as ETR upon attending bridging courses to comply with STCW requirements. For details, please refer to Shipping Circular No. 15 of 2016 - Requirements for Certificate of Competency as Electro-Technical Officer (COC-ETO) and Certificate of Proficiency as Electro-Technical Rating (COP-ETR)

Q6 What are the Procedures in applying for a COE for ETO from MPA?

Please login to Marinet and follow the instructions as stated.

Select ‘Certificate of Endorsement (COE) Application’ under e-Shipping

Select ‘III/6’ from the drop list of the Regulation Code
Select 'Electro-Technical Officer' from the drop list of the Capacity.