

STCW Personal Survival Techniques

This training is intended to meet the requirements set out in Table A-VI/1-1 of the STCW Code and unit A11 of the marine national occupational standards. The greatest and most immediate threat to life in the event of abandoning ship is cold exposure. Precautions to protect against it, together with knowledge of survival equipment and its use, is the main message of this training. Other problems that a survivor will encounter are covered so as to ensure the highest possible chances of survival.

The objective of the training is to give all persons intending to go to sea the essential basic knowledge and experience of personal survival principles and techniques that can be applied to maximise their chances.

The aim is to give an understanding of how to use the safety equipment carried onboard. This course covers preparation for survival, lifejackets, search and rescue and a practical session in a swimming pool with a liferaft.

Course duration

The course duration is one day, including a two hour practical session with a life raft in a pool.

Teaching ratio

12:1 and 8:1 during practical sessions

Pre Course Knowledge

Nil

Syllabus

PART1

Preparation for sea survival

Types of emergency situations
Training drills and their importance
Survival difficulties and medical ailments
Survival requirements
Mustering points and abandoning the vessel
Actions prior to abandonment
Initial and Secondary actions onboard liferaft

PART 2

Equipment

Equipment available (LSA's)
Aids to location – Flares, Comms, AIS, SARTs, EPIRB's and signals
Survival Suits and TPA
Lifejacket - design and construction BS 3595, CEN, ISO
Correct donning procedure
Purpose and use of lifejackets
Entering the water from a height
Safety harness – design and construction BS 4224, ISO

Purpose and use

Securing arrangements
Liferafts – standards DTp, SOLAS, ORC and ISO

Stowage and containment onboard

Types, design and construction

Launching a deck stowed liferaft.

Liferaft equipment

Righting a capsized liferaft

Helping an injured person onboard

Initial actions to be taken in a liferaft

PART 3

Practical wet drill

Liferaft launching

Boarding dry and wet

Jumping from the poolside or board

Methods to increase chances of survival once in the water

Helping injured persons

Raft capsize drill

Final abandonment exercises

Certification

Achievement of the desired standard of competence will be attested to by a certificate issued by the centre. The Certificate will state that the candidate has; completed a programme of training by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency as meeting the requirements laid down in: STCW 95 Regulation VI/1 and paragraph 2.1.1 of Section VI/1 of the STCW Code.