

**VESSEL SECURITY OFFICER ENDORSEMENT
ADDED TO STCW-95 CERTIFICATE
(Revised 07/13/2009)**

The United States Coast Guard (USCG) is currently in the process of implementing a new rule that will require all mariners sailing in the position of Vessel Security Officer (VSO) on foreign voyages to have the VSO endorsement by **July 1, 2009**.

MM&P members and tuition students who have taken the **MITAGS/PMI Vessel, Company, and Facility (VCF) Security Officer course** or its predecessor, the **MITAGS/PMI Security Officer: Port, Company, and Ship (PCS) course**, from April 2003 to April 2005 have met the certified training requirement of this new regulation. To obtain the endorsement, send all of the following to your local Regional Examination Center (REC):

- ❖ Application (CG-719B).
- ❖ Passport photograph.
- ❖ **Original** Security Course Certificate and the Refresher, if needed.
- ❖ **Copy** of your License.
- ❖ **Copy** of your Merchant Mariner Document (MMD).
- ❖ **Copy** of your STCW Certificate.
- ❖ **Copy** of the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) effective April 15, 2009.

The REC will forward this information to the National Maritime Center (NMC). In turn, they will re-issue your STCW Certificate, with the security endorsement, at no charge.

For those who have taken a Security course that is **not** approved, you will need to take a one-day refresher course.

For those who have not taken a Security course, or if you cannot obtain your course completion certificate, you will need to take the regular three-day Security course.

Upcoming dates for the MITAGS and PMI Security courses are as follows:

Vessel Security Officer Refresher Course (SEC-VSOR)	
Duration: 1-Day	
MITAGS	PMI
❖ August 14, 2009	❖ August 6, 2009
❖ November 13, 2009	❖ October 12, 2009
	❖ November 30, 2009

Security Officer: Vessel, Company, and Facility Course (SEC-VCF)	
Duration: 3-Days	
MITAGS	PMI
❖ September 14 - 16, 2009	❖ August 3 - 5, 2009
❖ November 16 - 18, 2009	❖ October 27 - 29, 2009
	❖ November 10 - 12, 2009
	❖ December 14 - 16, 2009

To enroll in one of MITAGS' courses, please use one of the following methods:

Website: www.mitags.org
E-mail: admissions@mitags.org
Toll-Free: (866) 656-5568

To enroll in one of PMI's courses, please use one of the following methods:

Website: www.mates.org
E-mail: registrar@mates.org
Toll-Free: (888) 893-7829

To view a copy of the NMC Approved Courses List, please download the following link:
http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/mmic_appcourses.asp

For more information on the Security Endorsement, please download the following informative FAQ link: http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/vessel_safety_officer.asp#vso3

For additional information on MITAGS' custom offsite training locations, please contact Captain Robert Becker, Business Development Manager, toll-free at (866) 656-5569 or via e-mail at rbecker@mitags.org.

For additional information on PMI's custom offsite training locations, please contact Mr. Gregg Trunnell, Director of Business Development, toll-free at (888) 893-7829 or via e-mail at gtrunnell@mates.org.

Reminder: always keep a personal copy of any documents sent to the U.S. Coast Guard. It is also a good practice to send documents via "return receipt" or by one of the commercial mailing services to establish the date and time documents are received by the Coast Guard.