

The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA)'s Standards of Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) Office is pleased to announce one of key offerings for 2018: the automation and digitization of online applications for COP, COC, COE, and MARINA professional IDs. In line with this effort, the Seafarers Certificate System (SCS) was developed and around 176,000 seafarers are already registered in it. At present, all officers are required to have an SCS account before they are allowed to take the theory-oriented test. Moreover, a seafarer with an SCS account is required to upload their STCW-related documents for speedier navigation. Because of this, MARINA will no longer be requiring photocopies of said paperwork.

The primary objective of the SCS is the online evaluation of seafarers' documents with the end goal of processing credentials, certificates, and IDs in a faster, more efficient, and more credible manner. Online appointments will also be introduced by February 19, 2018. By the second quarter of the year, seafarers can apply online using their SCS account.

We are hence requesting all manning agencies to help MARINA disseminate the information contained herein to all seafarers and to encourage them to register online. The registration is free, and may be done here: <http://stcw.marina.gov.ph/scsv2.o/>. For further seafarer assistance, please visit the MARINA STCW Facebook account at <https://www.facebook.com/STCWOfficePID/>.