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SUB-COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING
39th session
Agenda item 7

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COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE STCW CONVENTION AND THE STCW CODE

Quality standard framework for maritime training institutes

Submitted by Singapore

SUMMARY

<i>Executive summary:</i>	This document contains information on a quality standard framework for maritime training institutes
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	Paragraph 4
<i>Related documents:</i>	STW 38/17 and STW 34/INF.2

Introduction

1 The Sub-Committee on Standards of Training and Watchkeeping, at its thirty-eighth session (22 to 26 January 2007), agreed that regulation I/8 should be included for the review in order to address, *inter alia*, that independent evaluation to be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Convention and not using quality standards applied in other industrial organizations.

2 At the thirty-fourth session of the STW Sub-Committee (24-28 February 2003), Singapore had submitted an information paper that included a copy of the “Standard for Quality Maritime Education and Training”, (QMET) based on ISO 9001: 2000 requirements.

3 The QMET would provide a framework of a quality management system to meet the requirements of regulation I/8 of the STCW Convention for the management of maritime training institutes. A description of the QMET and how it could be related to the requirements of the STCW Convention is provided in the annex.

Action requested of the Sub-Committee

4 The Sub-Committee is invited to take the above information into account and decide as appropriate.

For reasons of economy, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly asked to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

ANNEX

BRIEF OVERVIEW ON QUALITY MARITIME EDUCATION AND TRAINING (QMET PSB 100:2002) AND ITS BENEFITS

Introduction

1 QMET stands for 'Quality Maritime Education and Training'. QMET PSB 100:2002 is an auditing Standard (Fig.1) developed by PSB, Singapore, especially for maritime schools, colleges and training centres for complying with the requirements of both ISO 9001:2000 and STCW Convention (Fig.2).

Need for Quality System for Maritime Educational and Training Institutes

2 Originally the ISO system was designed with the manufacturing sectors in mind, though now it is also widely used for the service sectors. However, it has some limitations when used to audit 'Education service', particularly maritime educational institutes. Regulation I/8 of the STCW Convention requires each Party to ensure that all training, assessment of competence, certification, endorsement and revalidation activities are continuously monitored through a quality standards system to ensure achievement of defined objectives, including those concerning the qualifications and experience of instructors and assessors. It is therefore imperative that Maritime Educational and Training Institutes to have a Quality Management System which would suit their special requirements.

Why QMET when ISO is available?

3 The QMET is quality system for maritime education designed to comply with both STCW Convention and ISO 9000 requirements to improve the academic standards of maritime courses. QMET leverages on the ISO approach and uses a common Educational Model in addition to the PDCA Methodology, for Continual Improvement of Academic Quality as shown in Figure 3. This would help both maritime institutes and industry by producing better trained and competent seafarers.

Benefits of QMET

4 The following are some of the benefits in using QMET standards.

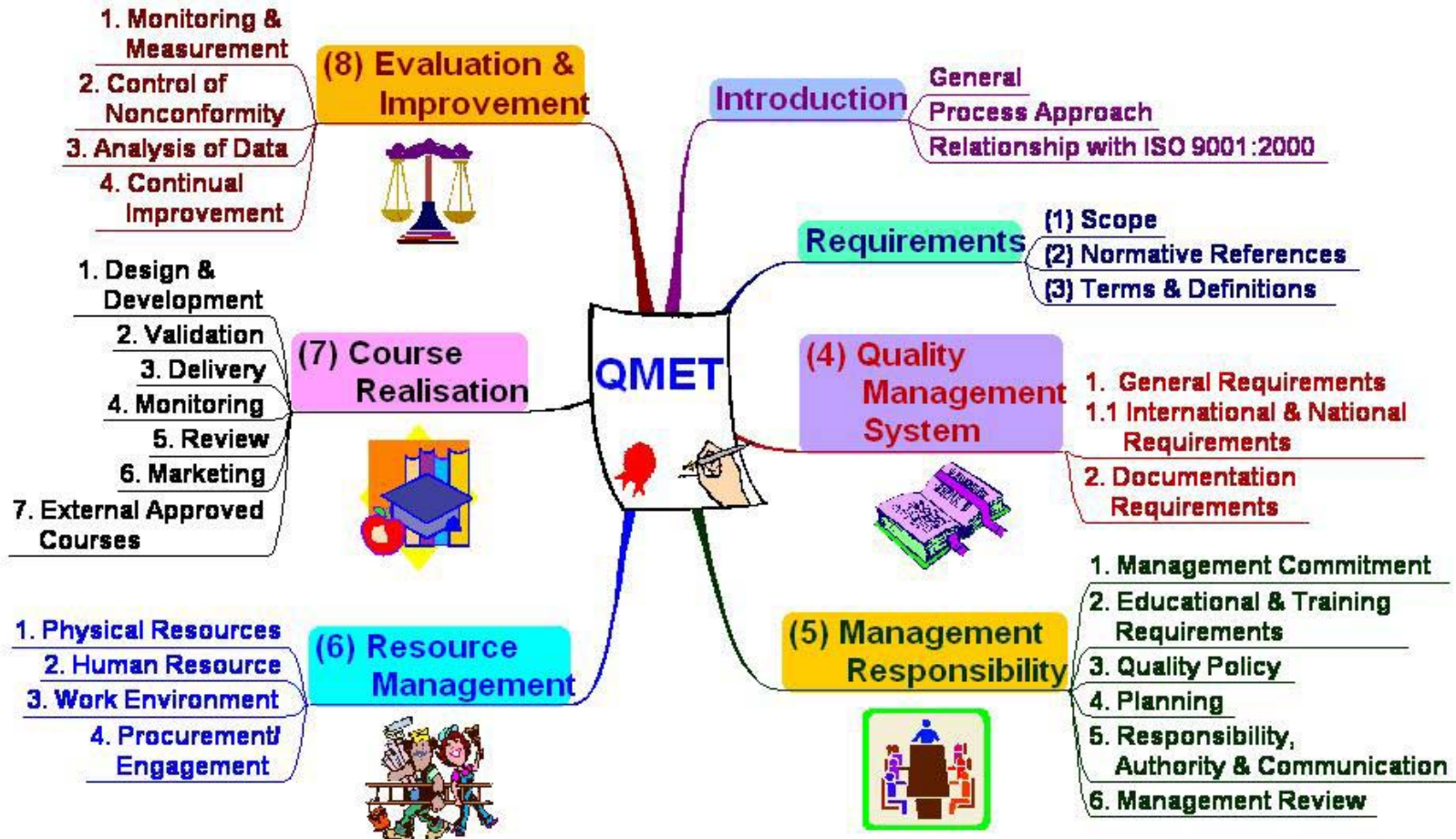
- Courses will be academically sound because they will be periodically reviewed and monitored.
- Course management will be audited by an independent body which includes personnel with maritime industry experience.
- Courses will be designed, structured and delivered to provide the best value for money in terms of knowledge and expertise.
- Trainers will be evaluated by the institute and students.
- Trainers will have to regularly update themselves to stay competent.
- The industry will be assured of the academic quality of the courses through regular validation, monitoring and reviewing processes.

5 Further details of the QMET Standards could be obtained from :

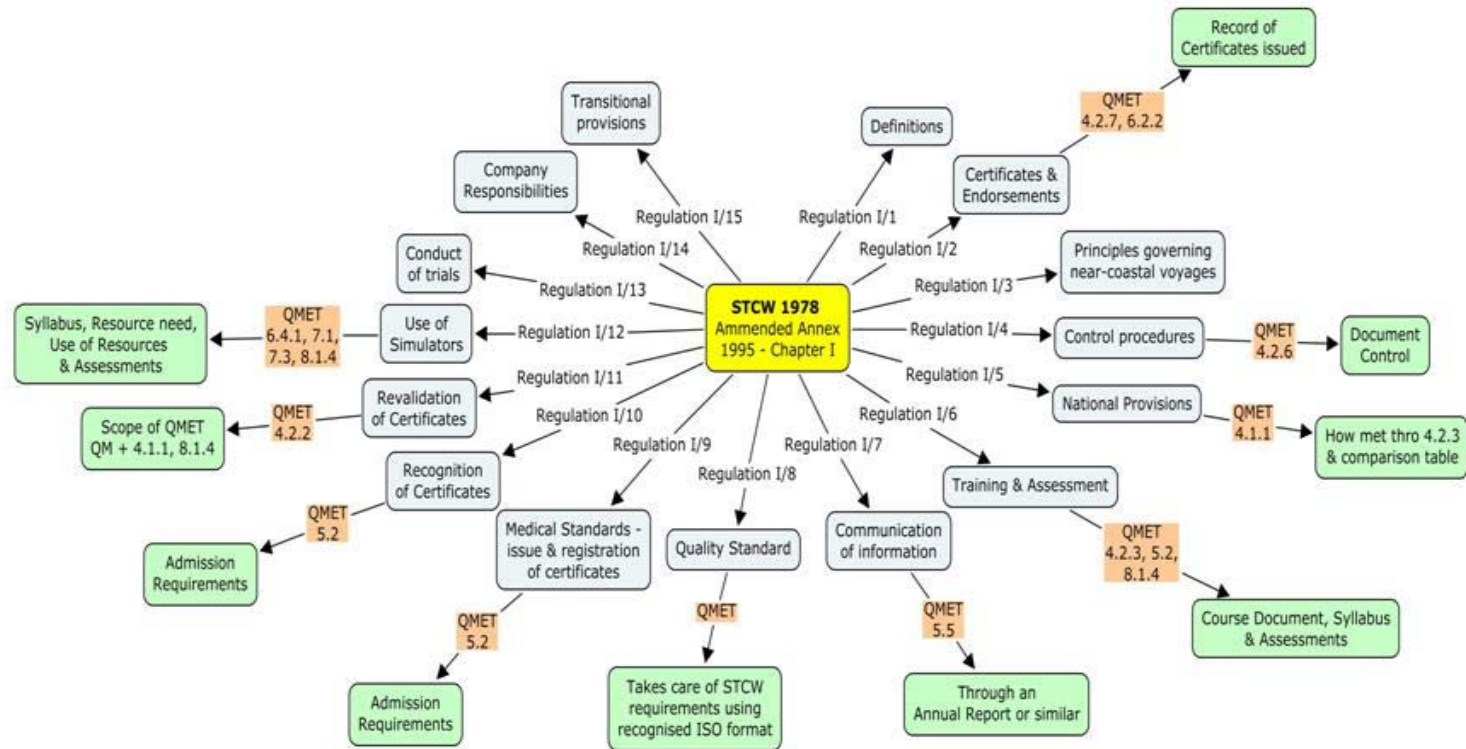
TÜD SÜD PSB Pte Ltd
1 Science Park Drive, Singapore 118221
www.tuv-sud-psb.com

Overview of Standard

PSB 100:2002



How QMET PSB 100:2002 relates to STCW requirements



Model for Continual Improvement of Academic Quality

