



March 20, 2009

Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC) Terminology

In our most recent information bulletins ([TWIC Information](#), [MMC Information](#) and the [MMC Presentation](#)) we've introduced a few of the terms associated with the MMC. This bulletin introduces some other terminology with the MMC.

Currently, the four credentials issued by the Coast Guard (License, Certificate of Registry, STCW and MMD) are referred to by their individual names and are collectively known as merchant mariner credentials. When the Coast Guard begins issuing the MMC after April 15, 2009 there will only be one credential, which will contain all of the qualifications previously certified by the four individual credentials. As such, the terminology used to describe mariners' qualifications will change. On the new MMC, a mariner's qualifications will be categorized as Domestic and International endorsements as appropriate.

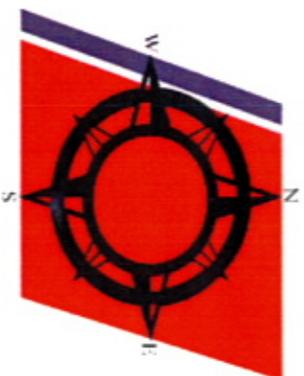
- **Domestic Endorsements** are further divided into Officer and Rating Endorsements. See the [MMC Rule](#) for specific endorsements.
 - Officer Endorsements coincide with the current License and Certificate of Registry. There are 43 Officer Endorsements.
 - Rating Endorsements coincide with the current MMD. There are 17 Rating Endorsements.
 - Officer Endorsements will continue to be further divided into Upper Level and Lower Level.
- **International or STCW Endorsements** coincide with the current STCW Certificate. There are 14 International/STCW Endorsements.

All endorsements will be listed in terms of Capacities and Limitations. See the previously published [MMC Presentation](#) for examples.

A **Document of Continuity** will take the place of renewing a credential for continuity purposes. This single document will incorporate all of the capacities that are being placed in continuity status. A document of continuity will have no expiration date. See the previously published [MMC Presentation](#) for an example.

Sincerely,

David C. Stalfort
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard



National Maritime Center

Consolidated Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC)

This document is intended to show you the physical nature of the MMC. The MMC final rule can be found on the Federal Register Website ([MMC Final Rule](#)).

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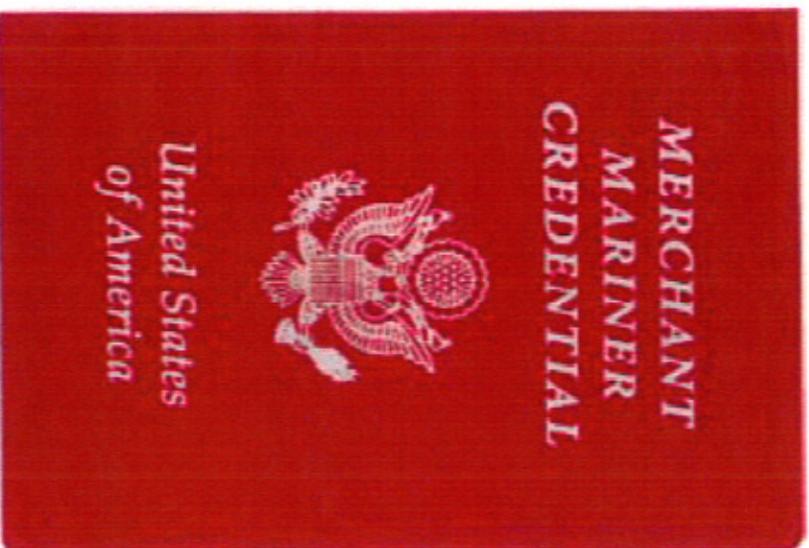
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New Merchant Mariner Credential



The MMC will have the look and feel of a passport, however, it does NOT substitute for a passport.

Due to scanning constraints, the color depicted here is not a true color match.



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The MMC retains much of the traditional artwork found on the current credentials. The document is resistant to chemical solvents, oxidants, acids and alkali.

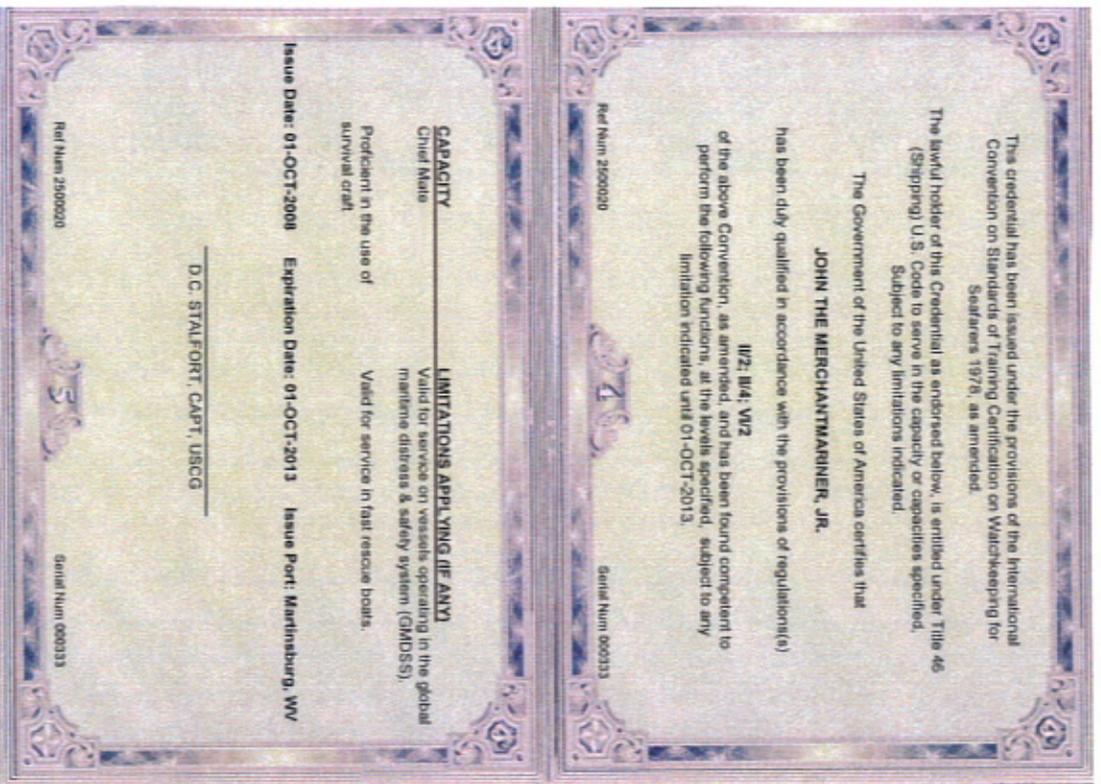
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Credential Data

This is an example of the data pages that will be printed on a credential with both International (STCW) and Domestic (Officer and Rating) Endorsements.

This page contains the International Endorsement.

Each page will contain the reference number of the mariner and the serial number of the booklet.

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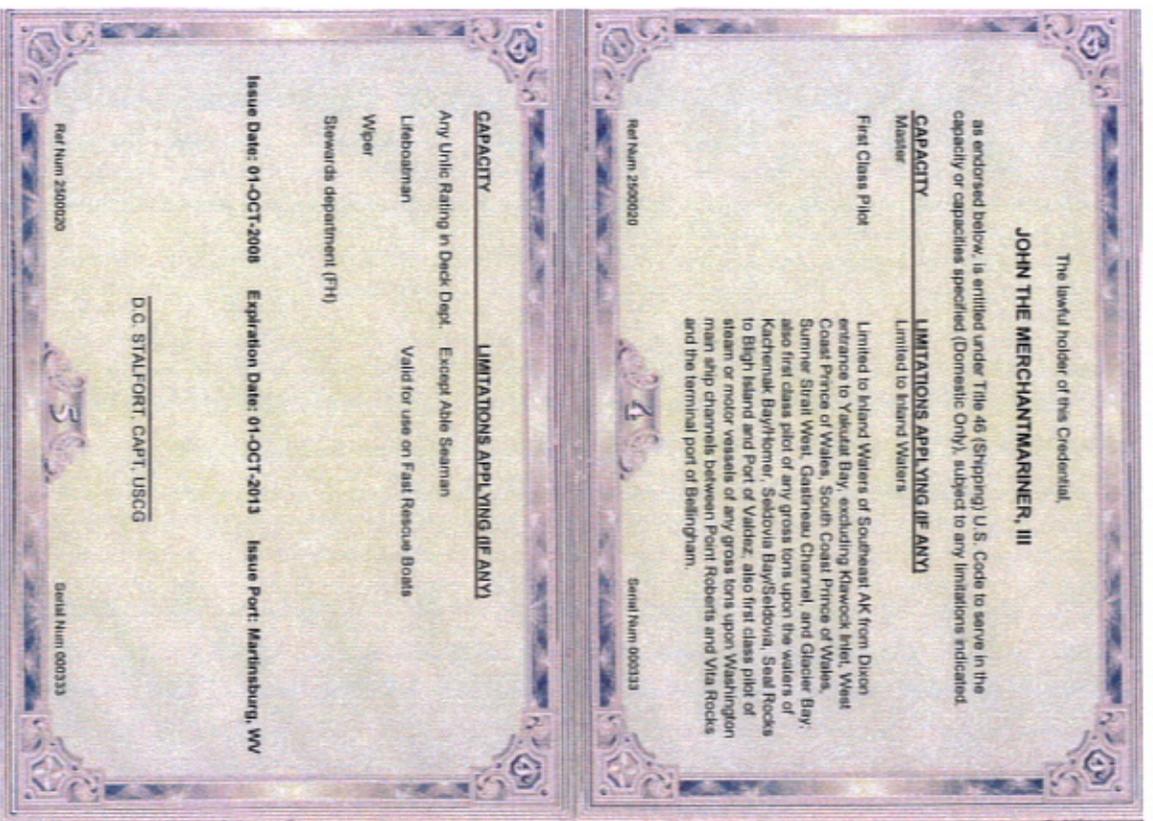
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Credential Data

Domestic Officer and Rating Endorsements data will be printed in terms of Capacities and Limitations much like the current STCW Certificates.

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Merchant Master Credential (MMC) Endorsement

Read all of the information below before inserting labels in your MMC.

- This label is the endorsement to your MMC; however, it is not valid unless properly placed within your MMC.
- Please review the information contained on the endorsement label for accuracy. Before placing in credential booklet, after reviewing the label, you have questions, concerns or need additional information, DO NOT insert in booklet. Instead, please call (888)427-5662 or send an e-mail to: sashmc@uscg.mil
- The instructions below must be followed carefully to ensure that this label becomes a permanent part of your MMC. Labels cannot be repositioned and you should not make any attempt to remove it once it is affixed to your MMC.
- If more than one label has been ordered you must place them in the order indicated by the sequence number next to label beginning with 1

Step 1: Open the MMC booklet to the first blank page. It may be the front or back of a page.

Step 2: Place the opened credential on a hard surface with the page numbers at the bottom toward you.

Step 3: Carefully remove label from the carrier sheet.

Step 4: Center the label within the page border, with the label inventory number at the lower right corner. Do not distort the page number.

Step 5: Press firmly onto the credential page.

- If you make a mistake while inserting this endorsement call (888) 427-5662 or send an e-mail to sashmc@uscg.mil to request further instruction.

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Endorsement Label

When you apply for an endorsement or raise in grade we will produce a label to be added to your MMC.

The label will be mailed to you with instructions for placement in the credential booklet.

Once the label has been adhered to the booklet, it cannot be removed without damaging the document.

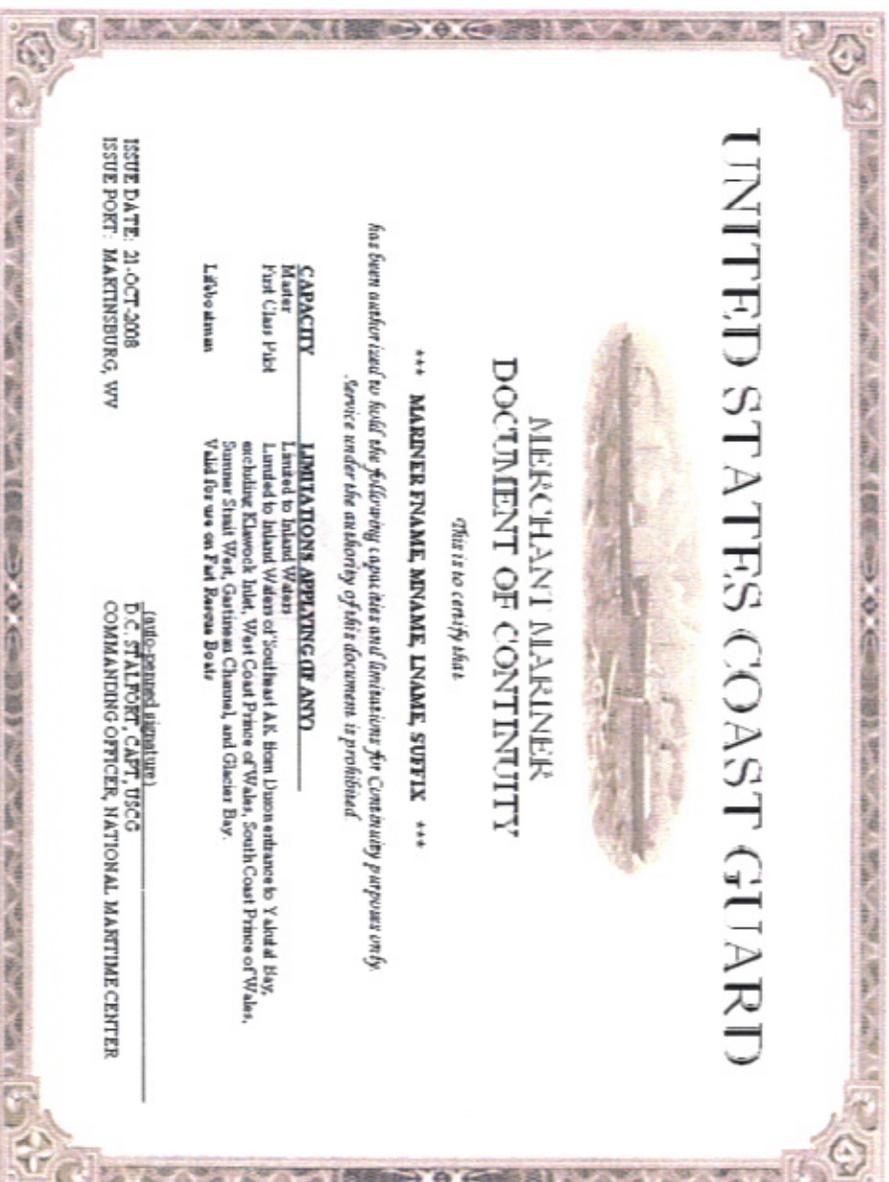
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Document of Continuity



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When you make application to place any/all of your Endorsements into continuity status you will be issued a Document of Continuity. Like the MMC, this document will consolidate all Capacities and Limitations being placed into continuity status. The Document of Continuity will have no expiration date.

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