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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR  
DRAWING UP STANDARDS  
IN THE FIELD OF INLAND NAVIGATION

## **Draft standards for the administrative procedure for the approval of vessel-handling simulators and radar simulators**

Communication from the Secretariat

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According to Article 21(1) of Directive (EU) 2017/2397 on the recognition of professional qualifications in inland navigation, simulators used for the assessment of competence shall be approved by Member States.

The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 31 to supplement the Directive by laying down standards for the approval of simulators, specifying the minimum functional and technical requirements and the administrative procedures in this regard, with the objective of ensuring that the simulators used for an assessment of competences are designed in such a way as to allow for the verification of the competences as prescribed under the standards for practical examinations referred to in Article 17(3).

CESNI experts examined the draft on 10 April 2018 and decided to put it on the agenda of the CESNI meeting on 8 November 2018 for adoption.

**Annex**

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**Draft standards for the administrative procedure for the approval of vessel-handling simulators and radar simulators**

**I. Procedure for the approval of simulators used in examinations referred to in Article 17(3), points a and b of Directive (EU) no 2017/2397 of the European Parliament and the Council<sup>1</sup>**

1. The entity using simulators to assess competences, shall present to the competent authority of the Member State a request for approval

- a) specifying which assessment of competence the simulator should be authorized for i.e. practical examination for obtaining a certificate of qualification as a boatmaster (vessel handling simulator) and/or practical examination for obtaining a specific authorization for sailing with the aid of radar (radar simulator);
- b) indicating that the simulator ensures full compliance with the minimum technical and functional requirements as referred to in the relevant standard(s) for simulators.

2. The competent authority shall ensure that the minimum requirements specified in the standard for the functional and technical requirements of simulators are checked according to the test procedure for each item. For this exercise, the competent authority shall use experts independent from the entity conducting the training programme. Experts shall document the compliance check for each item. If the test procedures confirm that the requirements are met, the competent authority shall approve the simulator. The approval shall specify which particular assessment of competence the simulator is authorized for.

**II. Notification of the approval and quality standards system**

1. The competent authority for the approval of simulators shall notify the approval of a simulator to the European Commission and any other international organisation concerned indicating at least the

- a) assessment of competence the simulator is authorized for i.e. practical examination for obtaining a certificate of qualification as a boatmaster (vessel handling simulator) and/or practical examination for obtaining a specific authorisation for sailing with the aid of radar (radar simulator);
- b) name of the operator of the simulator;
- c) name of the training programme (if applicable);
- d) body awarding the certificates of qualification, specific authorization or practical examination certificates and
- e) date of the entry into force, revocation or suspension of the approval of the simulator.

2. For the purpose of a quality assessment and assurance system referred to under Article 27 of Directive (EU) No 2017/2397, the competent authorities shall keep the requests specified in section I.1.a) and documentation specified in section I.2.

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<sup>1</sup> Directive 2017/2397/EU of 12 December 2017 on the recognition of professional qualifications in inland navigation (OJ L 345, 27.12.2017, p.33).

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