

## **Standards Board Approved Questions and Answers for Organization and Levels of Authority**

**For all of the questions below, the company's safety management system must clearly define the responsibility or authority of the specified personnel and it must be written and disseminated.**

- Does the company's safety management system describe the general responsibilities of the towing vessel master?
- Does the company's safety management system document the authority of the towing vessel crew?
- Does the company's safety management system document the general responsibilities of the towing vessel crew?
- Does the company's safety management system describe the organization and document the authority of the shoreside personnel?
- Does the company's safety management system describe the general responsibilities of the shoreside personnel?
- Does the company safety management system clearly communicate that the master is responsible for the safety of the towing vessel?
- Does the company safety management system clearly communicate that the master is responsible for adhering to the provisions of the Certificate of Inspection (COI), if issued?
- Does the company safety management system clearly communicate that the master is responsible for the vessel's compliance with applicable regulations?
- Does the company safety management system clearly communicate that the master is responsible for compliance with the safety management system applicable to the towing vessel?
- Does the company safety management system clearly communicate that the master is responsible for reviewing the contents of the safety management system applicable to the towing vessel, and reporting non-conformities to shore based management?
- Does the company safety management system clearly communicate that the master is responsible for supervising all persons onboard in carrying out their assigned duties?
- Does the company safety management system clearly communicate that the master has the authority to determine if it is unsafe for the towing vessel to proceed?
- If the master has determined it is unsafe to proceed, does the company safety management system clearly communicate that the master must ensure that adequate corrective action is taken, and must not proceed until it is safe to do so?
- Does the company safety management system clearly communicate that the master has the authority to determine that an operation endangers the vessel or crew?
- If the master has determined that an operation endangers the vessel or crew; does the company safety management system clearly communicate that the master must ensure that adequate corrective action is taken and must not proceed until it is safe to do so?
- Does the company safety management system clearly communicate that the master has the authority to determine that an unsafe condition exists?

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- If the master has determined that an unsafe condition exists, does the company safety management system clearly communicate that the master must ensure that adequate corrective action is taken and must not proceed until it is safe to do so?
- Does the company safety management system clearly communicate that nothing in the safety management system applicable to the towing vessel shall be misinterpreted in a manner that limits the master or mate (pilot) of their own responsibility taking such steps as he/she deems necessary and prudent to assist vessels in distress or for other emergency conditions?
- Does the company safety management system clearly communicate that the master has the ability to request the company's help when necessary?
- Does the company safety management system clearly communicate that the crew is responsible for the safety of the towing vessel?
- Does the company safety management system clearly communicate that the crew is responsible for compliance with the safety management system?
- Does the company safety management system clearly communicate that the crew is responsible for compliance with applicable regulations?
- Does the company safety management system clearly communicate the crew's requirement to report unsafe conditions to the master?
- Does the company safety management system clearly communicate that the crew is responsible for taking action to prevent accidents?