Ship Security Officer Course - STCW.online

Part 2 - Practical Exercises



**READ THIS FIRST – IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

You have successfully finished the first part of our SSO course.

You are now about to do an assignment of five practical exercises:  
  
Where applicable, these exercises may be either conducted on board your ship, or you may use recent personal experience and documented involvement in the type of activities onboard your ship over the last year. In both cases, approval and sign-off by the Master of your vessel is required.

Do:

1. Start working on the practical exercises. Take your time, read carefully and enjoy the learning experience. After you have completed all 5 exercises, hand them over to your captain. They must be reviewed and graded by the Captain (or his/her deputy)
2. After reviewing and grading all exercises, the Captain (or his/her deputy) has to formally date, sign, stamp and complete the Statement of Completion form that you have received by email.
3. Make a high quality scan or picture of:  
   - all the pages the filled out practical exercises – filled out pages only  
   - the dated, stamped and signed Statement of Completion
4. Mail both to [assistant@stcw.online](mailto:assistant@stcw.online) for verification.

After positive verification you will receive your official Certificate of Competence.

**PRACTICAL EXERCISE 1 – THREAT SCENARIOS**

When doing a Ship Security Assessment, all possible threats must be taken into account.  
The ISPS code lists nine possible threats.

1. Damage to, or destruction of, the ship or of a port facility, e.g. by explosive devices, arson, sabotage or vandalism.
2. Hijacking or seizure of the ship or of persons on board.
3. Tampering with cargo, essential ship equipment, systems or ship’s stores.
4. Unauthorized access or use, including presence of stowaways.
5. Smuggling weapons or equipment, including weapons of mass destruction.
6. Use of the ship to carry those intending to cause a security incident and/or their equipment.
7. Use of the ship itself as a weapon or as a means to cause damage or destruction.
8. Attacks from seaward whilst at berth or at anchor.
9. Attacks whilst at sea.

Please take into account your vessel, routes and trading. A cruise liner for example is more vulnerable for a terrorist attack than a bulk carrier. The Gulf of Mexico is less vulnerable for pirates then a vessel trading in the Gulf of Aden.

The Ship Security Plans should provide in measures against all these threats.

**EXERCISE – Plan an attack an protective measures**

* Choose one of the 9 listed threats
* Imagine that you are a leader of a terrorist or criminal group and want to attack your vessel. Based on the threat you choose, make up a plan on an attack on your vessel.
* Check the Ship Security plan onboard and find out if it could have prevented your imagined attack.
* Fill in the exercise form.
* After completion ask the Captain (or deputy) to review the exercise and sign it.

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| **EXERCISE 1 ­- Plan an attack an protective measures** |
| Name: Date: |
| Ship: IMO No.: |
| Type of threat used for exercise: |
| a). Describe the attack: |
| b). What protective measures could have stopped the attack: |
| c). Any suggestions for improvement: |



**PRACTICAL EXERCISE 2 – DECLARATION OF SECURITY (DoS)**

The Declaration of Security does indicate whether a Ship and a Port Facility are operating at the same Security Level and requires procedures for dealing with any inconsistency.

The Declaration of Security (DoS) must be completed during the following circumstances:

* When the port facility deems it necessary
* When a flag state deems it necessary
* When indicated in the Ship Security Plan
* When the vessel and port facility are operating at different security levels

The agreed DoS should be signed and dated by both the port facility and the ship, as

applicable, to indicate compliance with the ISPS Code and should include its duration, the relevant security level or levels and the contact points.

**EXERCISE – Complete a Declaration of Security (DoS)**

* Complete a Declaration of Security together with the Port Facility Security Officer. Use the DoS from your Ship Security Plan, if not, use the form on the next page.
* Fill in the exercise form.
* After completion ask the Captain (or deputy) to review the exercise and sign it.

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| **EXERCISE 2 - Complete a Declaration of Security (DoS)** |
| Name: Date: |
| Sample Declaration of Security |
| Name of ship: IMO No.: Name of port facility: |
| a)  This Declaration of Security is valid from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ until \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, for the following ship/port facility interface activities under Security Level \_\_\_  The ship and port facility agree to the following security responsibilities.  (Initial or circle)  Activity  Responsibility for searching the berth/pier directly surrounding the ship.  Communications established between the ship and waterfront facility:  Means of raising alarm agreed between ship and waterfront facility.  Ship/waterfront facilities report/communicate any noted security non- conformities and notify appropriate government agencies.  Port specific security information passed to ship and notification  procedures established (Specifically who contacts local and national  authorities, response centers, and coast guard).  Responsibility for checking identification and screening of:  Passengers, crew, hand carried items, and luggage.  Ship’s stores, cargo, and vehicles.  Responsibility for searching the berth/pier directly surrounding the ship.  Responsibility for monitoring and/or performing security of water  surrounding the ship.  Verification of increased threat level and implementation of additional  protective measures.  Establish protocol to coordinate response between Ship/Port facility  to acts that threaten either the Ship and/or Port facility.  The signatories to this agreement certify that security arrangements  for both the ship and the waterfront facility during the specified Ship/Port  facility interface activities are in place and maintained. | Ship  \_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_  Ship  Ship  Ship  \_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_ | Facility  \_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_  Facility  Facility  Facility  \_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_ |



**PRACTICAL EXERCISE 3 – DRILLS AND TRAINING**

The Ship Security Officer is responsible that personnel having specific security duties should have sufficient knowledge and ability to perform their assigned duties such as:

* Knowledge of current security threats and patterns.
* Recognition and detection of weapons, dangerous substances and devices.
* Recognition of characteristics and behavioral patterns of persons who are likely to threaten security.
* Techniques used to circumvent security measures.
* Crowd management and control techniques.
* Security related communications.
* Knowledge of the emergency procedures and contingency plans.
* Operations of security equipment and systems.
* Testing, calibration and whilst at sea maintenance of security equipment and systems.
* Inspection, control, and monitoring techniques.
* Methods of physical searches of persons, personal effects, baggage, cargo, and ship’s stores.

All other shipboard personnel should have sufficient knowledge of and be familiar with:

* The meaning and the consequential requirements of the different security levels.
* Knowledge of the emergency procedures and contingency plans.
* Recognition and detection of weapons, dangerous substances and devices.
* Recognition, on a non-discriminatory basis, of characteristics and behavioral patterns of persons. who are likely to threaten security.
* Techniques used to circumvent security measures.

**EXERCISE – Plan, execute and evaluate a security drill**

* Choose what type of security drill you want to conduct.
* Plan and execute a drill or use the documentation of a recently conducted drill.
* Evaluate the drill.
* Fill out the drill form; you can use your own drill form if you have it onboard.
* After completion of this exercise, have the Master or assessor to review the exercise and sign it.



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| **EXERCISE 3 ­- Plan, execute and evaluate a security drill** |
| Name: Date of drill: |
| Ship: IMO No.: |
| Drill objective: |
| a). Scenario description: |
| b). Required equipment: |
| c). Scenario roles: |
| d). Personnel assigned to each role: |
| e). What went well  What went wrong  What could be improved |

**PRACTICAL EXERCISE 4 – SEARCHES AND INSPECTIONS**

The ISPS states that at security level 1, all those seeking to board a ship should be liable to search.

As the SSO onboard your ship you should be able to conduct physical and non-intrusive searches of persons, personal effects, baggage, cargo and ships stores. Any such search shall be undertaken in a manner which fully takes into account the human rights of the individual and preserves their basic human dignity. The SSO must also be able to train and guide other personnel in this important task.

**EXERCISE – Plan, execute and evaluate a gangway/access security control**

* Plan and execute a drill or use a recently conducted drill as example.
* Evaluate the drill.
* Fill out the drill form; you can use your own drill form if you have it onboard.
* After completion of this exercise, have the Master to review the exercise and sign it.

Items which must be covered in the drill.

* Identity control and sign in procedure.
* Physical searches of persons seeking to board your ship.
* Baggage control.
* Metal detection (if available).

Items to consider:

* Location.
* Designated area for searches.
* Work in teams.
* Protective clothing.
* Request permission for a personal search.
* Comply with the ISPS code and the current Security level.
* Equipment.

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| **EXERCISE 4 ­- Plan, execute and evaluate a gangway/access security control** |
| Name: Date of drill: |
| Ship: IMO No.: |
| Drill objective: |
| a). Scenario description: |
| b). Required equipment: |
| c). Scenario roles: |
| d). Personnel assigned to each role: |
| e). What went well  What went wrong  What could be improved |

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**PRACTICAL EXERCISE 5 – PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY**

The objective of this exercise is to adequately prepare the SSO in the event of piracy by describing the required actions and increasing the awareness of the associated risks.

Seafarers continue to be on the receiving end of this crime, which is also of great concern to the owner and operator as it endangers their greatest asset – the crew and vessel.

**EXERCISE – Prepare the vessel and its crew to prevent piracy attacks or armed robbery during a transit through a high risk area**

Your ship is about to enter a high risk area with piracy. Describe how you will prepare the vessel and its crew to prevent piracy attacks or armed robbery during the transit.

* Use the Ship Security Plan (SSP).
* Fill in the exercise form.

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| Name: Date: |
| a). Preparations necessary before entering a high risk area: |
| b). Protective measures in place during transit: |
| c). Actions to be taken if attacked by pirates:    What could be improved: |

Remember:

1. After you have completed all 5 exercises, hand them over to your captain. They must be reviewed and graded by the Captain (or his/her deputy)
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