

SMM 7.1.2 Bridge Watch Turnover

Procedure

- The Master is in charge of the safe navigation of the vessel and shall, in accordance with section 5.0, periodically review the standing orders for the vessel.
- The Master may write Night Orders for the night and morning watches. These orders may consist of (1) Navigation precautions, (2) Science Operations, (3) Weather Precautions, (4) Call out procedures, and (5) General communications. The watch officer shall review and sign the Night Orders. The signed Night Orders will be kept for no less than 60 days after signing.
- The Watch officers shall review and sign the Master's Standing orders.
- The Master assigns the Second Officer the task of supporting the Bridge Watch teams. The Second Officer shall maintain all bridge records, charts and publications, Deck Logbooks, GMDSS logbooks, Master Books and Voyage Plan. The Second Officer, when given the Pre-Voyage Plan information, shall review the needs of the science party and ensure that the proper charts and publications are available for the mission. A Voyage Plan including a list of waypoints, courses and operational details shall be made for the Master's approval for use of the Bridge Team. The Voyage Plan, and copies of relevant logbooks shall be included in the Voyage File. Any checklists used during the voyage shall also be included. The Master shall verify the completeness of the Voyage Plan and will ensure that the Second Officer utilizes the form "*Voyage Plan*" as the planning document template. All charts and publications will be verified to be updated for each "*Voyage Plan*".
- The underway bridge team shall consist of at least one duty Watch officer and one unlicensed personnel. The Duty officer is in charge of effectively managing the activity of this team with guidance from the Master.
- Communication is important to a ship's safety. The Duty Officer shall ensure that the communications equipment for inter-ship and intra-ship operations are working effectively.
- During operations, the Watch officer shall monitor the bridge team and keep the vessel in safe operating condition.
- The navigation bridge is a busy place and the Watch Officer should ensure that the team is not distracted or fatigued.
- The Watch Officer shall be empowered to call for additional personnel as the operational details and conditions warrant, with guidance from the Master.
- The Master may impose additional restrictions and requirements for the Bridge Team.
- The Watch Officer shall make appropriate logbook entries in the various bridge logs.

Documentation

- Form 7.1.3 Voyage Plan
- Standing Orders
- Night Orders

The change of the Watch shall be orderly with complete exchange of information between Duty Officers. The watches shall ensure that the oncoming Bridge Team is completely informed of:

- The status of science operations, including the plan for their watch, when to contact the duty RV Tech and/or the Chief Scientist, as well as the overall plan.
- The vessel position, tide, current and hazards to navigation
- Current and predicted vessel traffic and VTS requirements
- The intended track and upcoming operations
- Standing Orders, upcoming drills
- Machinery Condition, Equipment Status
- Navigation Equipment Status, Radar settings, Lighting
- Current and Forecasted Weather

- External Communication requirements, Signal Flags, GMDSS, Expected phone calls, faxes etc.
 - Internal Communication requirements, Computer settings, Handheld radio channels, lab telephone requirements, etc.
 - Personnel needs, wakeup calls
 - Any other information which is necessary for the safe operation and navigation of the vessel
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