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To Whom It May Concern

Ministry of Infrastructure and
Water Management
Maritime Affairs, Shipping

The Hague
Postbus 20901
2500 EX The Hague
The Netherlands

Date 1 May 2024
Subject Digital Seafarer Certificates issued by the Netherlands

Dear Sir/Madam,

From the 1st of May 2024 the Netherlands started a pilot issuing digital Certificates of Competence (CoC) and digital Certificates of Proficiency (COP) for Tankers to Dutch seafarers. The certificates meet the requirements of the FAL.5/Circ.39 (guidelines for the use of electronic certificates).

The electronic certificates are legally recognized and hold the same value as traditional paper-based documents. They are encrypted and secured with advanced digital signatures, based on the ISO 18013-5 ensuring their authenticity and integrity. The administration has implemented a user-friendly platform that allows for easy application and retrieval of these certificates.

The certificates contain a green background on the top with the logo of the "Inspectie Leefomgeving en Transport". On the details page, a logo and the name of the issuing authority "Human Environment and Transport Inspectorate (Inspectie Leefomgeving en Transport)" is included.

The digital Certificate is issued to an app on a smartphone called the "Kiwa eWallet". Enforcement officers can download the same app and check the seafarer's document by scanning QR code presented by the seafarer. Also, an enforcer can use any other compatible ISO18013-5 app that supports the defined DocType (see <https://www.kiwaregister.com/en/publications> for more information).

This initiative not only reflects the commitment of the Netherlands to embrace digital transformation but also significantly reduces the environmental impact by minimizing paper usage. It is a testament to the country's dedication to innovation, sustainability, and providing its citizens with the best possible services. This letter is to be kept on board or kept digitally and made available to Port State Control, Class inspectors and auditors. It can also be found on <https://www.kiwaregister.com/en/publications>.

For any further information or assistance regarding the electronic certificates, please visit our website <https://www.kiwaregister.com/en/publications> or do not hesitate to contact nl.license-support@kiwa.com or +31 (0)88-9984886 within the administration.

Director Maritime Affairs,

Michiel van Kruiningen



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