



NorthStandard

FAQs

ETA – ECDIS Training Assessment

Welcome to NorthStandard's ECDIS training assessment (ETA) – the first of our suite of Get SET! Safety & Efficiency Technologies.

In an era marked by unprecedented advances in maritime technology, it's time for the shipping industry to look beyond traditional methods and embrace innovative solutions that drive operational efficiency and cost savings through improved risk management.

As part of our ongoing commitment to delivering exceptional service and groundbreaking solutions, we're introducing a pioneering portfolio of vessel-based technology, designed to support your crew both onboard and onshore, to enhance safety and revolutionise operations.

ETA BASICS

Q What is ETA?

A ECDIS Training Assessment (ETA) is a professional development tool which enables crew members to identify any weaknesses or gaps in their ECDIS skills and knowledge, while reports on the results give shipowners complete visibility of where further support or training may be needed – whether for one vessel or across the entire fleet.

Even though most ship owners are abiding by the requirements for ECDIS training by providing generic training and type specific ECDIS familiarisation to their crews, NorthStandard continues to see large scale incidents that involve either the misuse or misunderstanding of ECDIS by watchkeeping officers.

ETA will allow ship operators to identify where training needs to be focused to prevent more ECDIS related incidents from occurring.

Q Who can use ETA?

A All NorthStandard members can access ETA through their MyNorth account.

You must ensure you are registered in MyNorth, instructions on how to register for a MyNorth account can be found [here](#).



FAQs (cont).

ETA – ECDIS Training Assessment

ETA BASICS

Q How does it work?

A ETA is distributed to ship operator's bridge crews by the ship operator themselves via the NorthStandard website. Once the ship operator/administrator has inputted the names and email addresses of the crew they wish to take the assessment, the crew members will receive an email to set up their own ETA account using their own email address and personal password. The crewmember will get 48 multiple choice questions. The assessment is split into 4 main sections. Each of these main sections is then broken down into four further subsections as follows:

Main section	Subsection	Contents of subsection
Appraisal & general knowledge	Appraisal information	Gathering information & data checks
	Training / standards / ENC production	Training requirements & ENC standards
	ENC management	Installing and updating ENCs
	ECDIS general knowledge	General ECDIS function knowledge
Planning	ENC display and scale	Data layers and ENC scale
	Safety settings – setting them up	Understanding of ECDIS safety settings
	ENC accuracy	CATZOC and ENC accuracy
	Plan confirmation	Confirming the completed passage plan
Execution	Planning administration	Requirements prior to port departure
	Safety settings – verification and use	Final safety setting checks
	Inputs and datums	External interfaces and local datums
	Display and alarms	Palette, alternate routes and alarms
Monitoring	Symbols and on-screen display	Symbology and ENC markings
	Alerts / indications / alarms	Alarm management and indications
	Safety settings – on passage	Use of safety settings whilst on passage
	Vessel position and OOW use	Position fixing and OOW actions


Once they have completed the assessment, the crew member will get a report showing them their own results. This will highlight which sub-sections they could focus on for further learning:

Main Sections	Sub Sections	Red	Orange	Green	Blue
Appraisal & General Knowledge	Appraisal Information	●	●	●	●
	Training/Standards/ ENC Production	●	●	●	●
	ENC Installation and Updating	●	●	●	●
	ECDIS General Knowledge	●	●	●	●
Planning	Display and ENC Scale	●	●	●	●
	Safety Settings - Setting up	●	●	●	●
	ENC Accuracy	●	●	●	●
	Passage Plan Confirmation	●	●	●	●
Execution	Passage Planning Administration	●	●	●	●
	Safety Settings - Verification and Use	●	●	●	●
	ECDIS Inputs & Datums	●	●	●	●
	ECDIS Display and Alarms	●	●	●	●
Monitoring	Symbol Recognition / On Screen Display	●	●	●	●
	Alerts / Indicators / Alarms	●	●	●	●
	Safety Settings - In Use	●	●	●	●
	Vessel Positions & OOW Use	●	●	●	●

The report also gives the crew member some advice on where they can find material to improve their knowledge, with some links to relevant educational material:

Appraisal Information

ATTENTION RECOMMENDED!



SCORE 0

Company SMS - Read the relevant section of your company SMS to ensure you understand it's requirements.

Refer to UKHO publication NP231 - [Admiralty guide to the practical use of ENCs](#), in particular sections 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.1.

Refer to UKHO publication NP232 - [Admiralty guide to ECDIS Implementation, Policy and Procedures](#), in particular section 13.

Refer to NorthStandard's [less prevention guidance on passage planning with ECDIS](#), consider printing this and using the checklist in conjunction with your SMS while conducting a passage plan on ECDIS.

The administrator can monitor the progress of completion with regard to how many of the crew have started or completed their assessments, and has the ability to set a reminder notification.

The ship operator will get a report; however, this report shows the overall results of the fleet, and where overall improvements can be made. The fleet wide report also has suggestions for the ship operator to consider.

Q How much does it cost to use?

A ETA is free for NorthStandard members.

FAQs (cont).

ETA – ECDIS Training Assessment

ETA ADMINISTRATOR

Q Do I need to download an app or special software?

A No, there is no app or special software required to use ETA. It is accessible on your usual internet browser.

Q Are there limits to the number of crew that can sit the assessment?

A No, there are no limits. You can put your crew into batches if you wish, for example by vessel type if you have a mixed fleet, or batches of junior and senior officers to allow you to more clearly identify training needs.

Q How do I administer to the crew?

A Once you are logged into MyNorth and ready to use ETA you can either manually type the crew's names and email addresses in or upload them on a CSV spreadsheet. There is a CSV file template available in the ETA platform for you to populate and use.

Q Is there a user guide to help me?

A Yes! There is a user guide in the 'support' section of the ETA platform for the administrator. There are also helpful 'how to' guides and videos on the NorthStandard website: Click [here](#) to find out more.

Q Who will get access to the results?

A The individual crew member will get their own results on completion of the assessment.

The ship operator will get a fleet overall result once the crew completes the assessment, or they can choose to generate the report at any time. The ship operator does not get individual crew results.

NorthStandard does not have access to any of the results.

Q Why can't the ship operator see individual results?

A ETA is not a testing tool, it is an assessment platform providing insight of the level of knowledge and skills of the crew. It is important that the results present an accurate reflection of the skills across a fleet in order to make improvements with real impact. By facilitating a level of anonymity, we believe crews feel more comfortable to be measured their knowledge seek further learning in areas where they require development.

Q Is there a limit to the number of times I use ETA?

A No, there are no limits. Indeed it is designed to be used multiple times. The idea is that following an assessment of a crew/fleet the ship operator will put in place some training to make improvements in the necessary areas. Then, after some time they can re-deploy the assessment to the crew/fleet to measure how effective the training has been.

Q Will there be help for me once I have completed the assessment?

A Yes! NorthStandard have a range of ECDIS material to help. This is also referenced in the fleet-wide and individual reports.

These materials can be found [here](#).

Q Is there a time limit for completing the assessment?

A For the individual crew member there is a 4 hour period to complete the assessment. You can take breaks in between each main section and this pauses the clock until you restart, meaning you can come back at a later time to proceed.

For the entire fleet, the administrator sets the period of time they wish to allocate the fleet to complete the assessments by.

FAQs (cont).

ETA – ECDIS Training Assessment

ETA – THE RESULTS

Q What should ETA NOT be used for?

- A We do not believe this is a test for crew, either existing or joining a company. It is not a HR tool or a means to single out crew.

Q What should I do with the results?

- A Individual crew should check the report's suggestions, in particular in those areas that there is room for improvement. They can then start immediately improving their own knowledge in those areas with self-learning.

The ship operator should review the fleet wide report, particularly the sections where the assessment highlights areas for improvement, and consider how to achieve this and plan for further training and development in these areas.

Q Should I relax if none of my results are in the red?

- A As with anything, the ultimate goal is to have no gaps in the crew's ECDIS knowledge. Whether there are yellow or green results, there is always value in continual professional development to keep up with inevitable changes.

Q Will the results be used to assess premium?

- A No. NorthStandard will not see any of the results.

Q Will NorthStandard's loss prevention team assist us after the assessment?

- A Yes, if after the assessment you wish to seek guidance from NorthStandard's loss prevention team please get in touch with your usual club contact, who will be happy to assist.

Click [here](#) to learn more about our Get SET! Safety & Efficiency Technologies.