1. **Purpose.** To issue information and amplifying guidance under reference (a) for the demonstrated recognition of professional expertise of personnel trained in strategic sealift operations who are authorized to wear the Strategic Sealift Officer (SSO) Warfare Insignia (WI). Only those officers who have completed the requirements outlined in references (a) through (e) will be eligible to wear the SSO WI.

2. **Eligibility**

   a. The following officers in an active status per reference (e) are eligible to wear the SSO WI:

   (1) SSOs who graduated before 10 June 2011 possessing active United States Coast Guard (USCG) Merchant Mariner Credentials (MMC); or

   (2) SSOs who received a commission on or after 10 June 2011 and before 1 April 2013 who have completed the SSO Ensign Post Commissioning Indoctrination (PCI) Course and possess active USCG MMC; or
(3) SSOs who received a commission on or after 1 April 2013, completed the SSO WI Personnel Qualification Standards (PQS) and possess an active USCG MMC.

b. Officers who were previously designated as 1625, 1665, or 1675 are eligible to wear the SSO WI.

(1) Officers previously designated in an eligible designator may request authorization to wear the SSO WI by emailing Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command (COMNAVRESFORCOM) (N14) at MMR_Program_Office@navy.mil. The request must contain current recall information (e.g. full name, email, phone number and address), a current Officer Summary Record (OSR), USCG MMC or expired Merchant Mariner Document, and a source document (i.e. NAVPERS 1000/4, Officer Appointment Acceptance and Oath of Office, DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, NAVPERS 1200/1, Ready Reserve Agreement) of previous designation. COMNAVRESFORCOM (N14) will provide a NAVPERS 1070/613, Administrative Remarks for officers approved to wear the SSO WI.

(2) NAVPERS 1070/613, Administrative Remarks, is not required for officers currently designated as SSO.

(3) Officers who have earned a retirement and transferred to the retired reserve status are authorized to wear the SSO WI.

3. **Prescribed Wear**

a. Wearing of the SSO WI is stipulated in reference (f).

(1) The former Merchant Marine Reserve (MMR) insignia is not an authorized Navy qualifications designation insignia and shall not be worn on a Navy uniform.

(2) Previously qualified MMR SSOs shall remove and replace the MMR insignia with the SSO WI on all Navy uniforms.
4. **Ineligible Officers**

a. Midshipmen

b. SSOs who have not earned a retirement and without an active USCG MMC in an inactive status per reference (e). Revocation of eligibility is detailed in reference (a). Members who fail to retain an active USCG MMC and are subsequently transferred to an inactive status will be notified of the revocation of authority to wear the SSO WI.

c. United States Merchant Service (USMS) personnel who do not meet one of the criterion in paragraph (2).

3. **SSO WI PQS.** The PQS is a requirement for all members of the SSO Program (SSOP) commissioning on or after 1 April 2013, but is recommended for all SSOs. SSO eligibility and qualification requirements are delineated in references (a) through (e).

a. The SSO WI PQS must be completed within five years of commissioning. SSOs that fail to complete the PQS within the prescribed time will be ineligible for subsequent Active Duty for Training (ADT) and will be reassigned to an inactive status or may be administratively separated per reference (a).

b. The SSO WI PQS consists of USCG documentation, fundamental, and service requirements. Officers should complete all fundamental requirements before starting the service requirements.

(1) **USCG Documentation Requirements**

(a) Hold a current unlimited tonnage/horsepower, oceans, third mate or third assistant engineer USCG MMC.

(b) Possess a current “Standards for the Training and Certification of Watch-standers” (STCW) endorsement from the USCG.

(2) **Fundamental Requirements**

(a) Complete SSO PCI course;
(b) Complete Military Sealift Command (MSC) 101 on Navy Knowledge Online (NKO): CNRFC-MSC101-2;

(c) Complete Navy Reserve Fundamentals on NKO: NAVRESFOR-NRF-3.0; and

(d) Complete Primary Professional Military Education (CWOs and O1 to O4) Blocks 1-7 on NKO: PPME-JO-B1.v4 - PPME-JO-B7.v4.

(3) Service Requirements. There are two methods to fulfill this requirement.

(a) Method 1

1. Upgrade USCG MMC one grade to Second Mate or Second Assistant Engineer and

2. Complete 12 days of ADT.

   a. SSO PCI course must be completed prior to executing ADT orders for this requirement.

   b. ADT orders to the PCI course do not count towards 12 day requirement.

(b) Method 2

1. Complete 24 days of ADT with a minimum of 12 days at MSC.

   a. SSO PCI course must be completed prior to executing ADT orders for this requirement.

   b. ADT orders to the PCI course do not count towards 24 day requirement.

   c. **Completion of PQS**

   (1) Officers will submit the following to the SSOP Office for qualification consideration:
(a) All Fundamentals NKO Certificates

(b) All FITREPs;

(c) Latest Periodic Heath Assessment results;

(d) Latest Physical Fitness Assessment results; and

(e) USCG MMC and STCW.

(2) Strategic Sealift Officer Warfare (TP1) additional qualification designation (AQD) will be entered into the officer’s OSR indicating qualification.

d. In accordance with reference (a) the SSOPM has the authority to change the SSO WI PQS as required. All questions regarding the SSO WI are to be directed to the SSOP Office via email at MMR_Program_Office@navy.mil.