

THE IMPACT OF THE PROJECT ONBOARDMED ON DEVELOPMENT OF STUDY COURSES IN MARITIME EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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Abstract

Non-technical skills are a set of human cognitive and social skills which are integrated and used along side with technical skills. Non-technical skills manifest themselves during routine procedures and non-standard situations. The analysis of accidents and routine work helps to assess how nontechnical skills affect working environment and people. The term „non-technical skills” was first discussed in the aviation industry in the 60s and 70s as part of investigating plane crashes and other accidents. Other fields of work that are associated with an increased risk and safety aspects, such as the nuclear industry, aviation and military industries also continue to further explore the value of non-technical skills. In each of these fields of work it is important to define the most valuable non-technical skills for a specific profession and how to further develop this set of skills during early studies and the learning process as a whole. In maritime industry the most important part of training for improving non-technical skills is the study courses in maritime emergency management.

The project OnBoard-Med – Harmonization of on Board Medical Treatment, Occupational Safety and Emergency Skills in Baltic Sea Shipping aims at developing more aligned vocational education programmes in the Central Baltic area. The shipping industry has become multinational, therefore recognizing problems in education cannot easily be solved on a national level. A cross-border approach is needed to tackle the issue. The project develops study courses in maritime emergency management, medical treatment and occupational safety. The courses are targeted at maritime (seaman, deck officer, maritime engineer) and nursing (registered nurse, emergency care nurse and public health nurse) education institutions. Blended-learning tools include face-to-face actions, e-learning courses, simulations and, of course, mobile communication, especially by emergency simulations (maritime emergency management, medical communication by accidents on sea etc).

The project results in harmonized and improved education and non-technical skills. The expected improvements in education and safety are significant, and will hopefully become the standard in the field. Participants get excellent professional skills by using blended learning tools - combining lessons on e-learning platform OPTIMA and simulations face-to-face. Further, the results will help local employees to enter the European and international labor market.

Keywords: maritime education, non-technical skills, e-learning, INTERREG project

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