

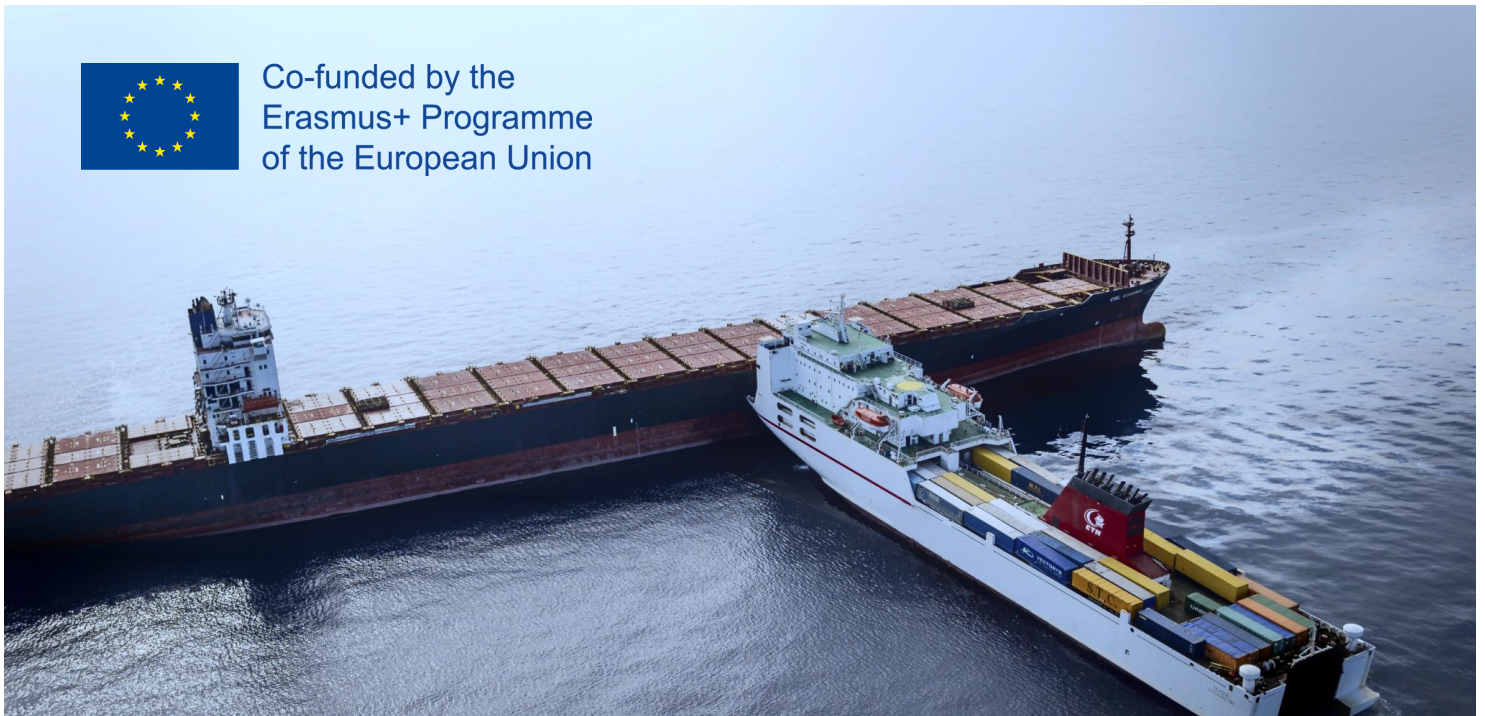


SeaSAFER PROJECT

NEWSLETTER #1 | 25, MAY 2021



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



PROJECT DETAILS

Project Title

Simulation of Sea Accidents
For Effective Responses

Project Name

SeaSAFER

Start Date

2021-04-01

Project Total Duration

24 Months

Project End Date

2023-03-31

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) have been promoting "Safety Culture" for the last decade with a great deal of emphasis on human elements, particularly how human errors have led to great loss of life and property (IMO, 2013). It has also been acknowledged that similar accidents/incident occur with repeatedly as human error is proven to be the main cause. Learning from accidents/incidents are one of the good practise that IMO promotes hence it has not been taken into consideration in training seafarers and industry would benefit from a training tool and programme for its sea-going staff (ACAR, 2011).

This project concerns an innovation development from existing data on accidents/incidents for the creation of a range of scenarios in order to create "Safety Culture" for the education and training of seafarers. The intention of this project is to develop experimental knowledge in order to training seafarers via learning from past accidents and incidents. The project will break these accidents and incidents into several categories preparing a knowledge-base of the selected scenarios, simulate them in online using advanced bridge as well as integrated and full-mission simulators, and train seafarers working on board vessels.

The main aims and objectives are:

- *To improve safety at sea and at ports by facilitating experimental knowledge and create a knowledge-base of scenarios for training of seafarers*
- *To develop intelligent exercises based on scenarios created for application in bridge as well as in the full mission simulators*
- *To assess the learning of users via scenarios developed*

The partnership is composed of six major education and training centres, private companies, universities in several EU countries supported by their awarding, accrediting and/or certifying authorities.

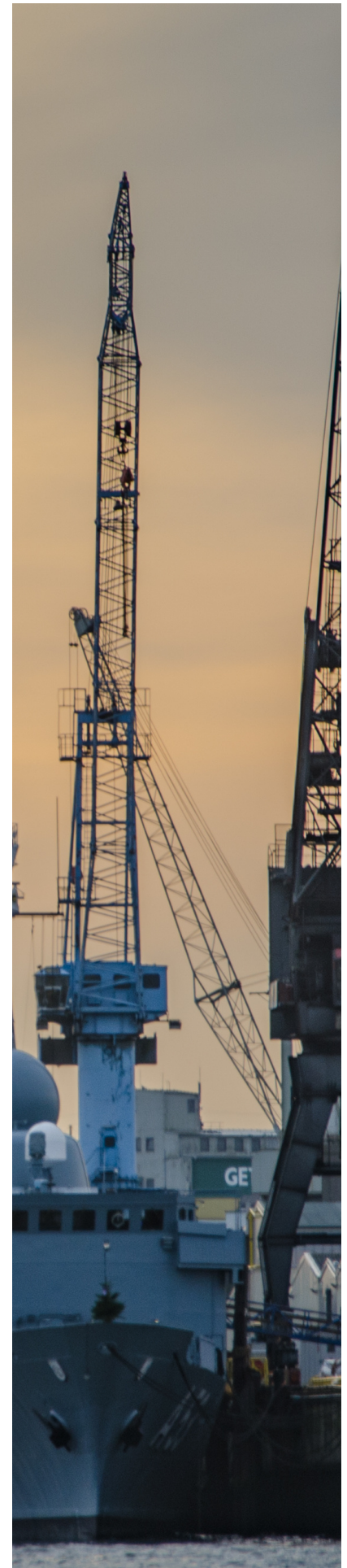
The main intangible outcome is that knowledge needed for example by seafarers on board a vessel to recognise and tackle similar accidents/incidents to be avoided as well as seafarers working at sea. The impact will be substantial since this project is intended to introduce innovative training and assessment tools to embed into experimental knowledge in MET programmes.

PROJECT APPROACH

- A report on identification of training needs
- A generic questionnaire and its analysis reports
- Investigation and database creation of ship accidents/incidents
- Knowledge base of accident scenarios
- Development of methods and methodologies
- A report on learning and delivery of tools and media for storing learning materials
- Content development for previous accidents/incidents
- Development of training modules for each type of seafarers
- Software interface developed
- E-learning and e-assessment platform developed
- Testing and improvement on the platform and results analysis

PARTNERS ROLES

- The project contractor, Lithuanian Maritime Academy (LMA), already have experience in developing scenarios for their own simulator and would like to expand this to wider audience through webbased e-learning and e-assessment applications.
- Maritime Innovators use its expertise on the subject with a software suite with its existing e-learning and assessment platform to integrate the scenarios and exercises developed from real accidents. The scenarios will be incorporated in an existing MET institutions which has a reasonable chance of world-wide recognition.
- Aintek Symvouloi Epicheiriseon Efarmoges Ypsilis Technologias Ekpaidefsi Anonymi Etaireia (IDEC) as a school for adults education has number of innovative online solutions and their product are widely used in maritime community therefore their innovative methods and methodologies will be used developing the SeaSAFER e-learning and e-assessment tool.



- National Maritime College (ENIDH) based in Portugal, Nikola Yonkov Vaptsarov Naval Academy (NVNA) based in Bulgaria and Mircea cel Batran Naval Academy (MBNA) based in Romania are maritime education and training providers. They have strong links in their countries and will be utilised. They will mainly help development of e-learning and e-assessment scenarios.



PROJECT IMPACT

The impact will be substantial as the motivation of partners, expertise of each alongside the innovative aspect of the project. The project proposes a transformation of seagoing accidents and recent research concerning these into a set of scenarios based on real life cases.

It is expected that there will be less accidents and incidents which can be very costly in human life and injury terms and in financial term. During preliminary work conducted by the partners, SeaSAFER platform is considered necessary by seafarers, maritime academies and shipping companies in the EU, the partnership is convinced that EU and national agencies responsible for maritime affairs will be embracing the course in the short term.

The short term impacts are:

- A platform to raise seafarers awareness on the accidents that could take place in their vessel hence improvised skills sets of the seafarers
- A platform to train world seafarers for safer industry.
- Certification option for seafarers in ships accidents recognised in partner countries and European wide
- Recognition for the certificate from independent awarding, accredited and licensing authorities at medium term

The potential users such as individual seafarers, training organisations, shipping companies and authorities will be provided with a comprehensive, complete and training programme that they will be able to introduce it directly into their own programmes, meaning that there will be a direct and immediate impact of the proposed project on vocational training. Furthermore, the autonomous (e-learning and e-assessment mode) character introduced in the course to be developed is expected to have short to medium-term impact on training systems and indicate the positive effect of in-house training.

Finally, it is expected the project to have some impact on the educational services of the university partners that will be involved in the development of the electronic product, since it will contribute towards the research undertaken in the area of pedagogy and multimedia and last but by no means least video software development and practice.

Long term impacts are:

1. Wider acceptance for the training programme and its constitute parts across Europe and possibly worldwide
2. Lesser accidents, safer seas and ports.
3. More competent seafarers yet competitive market for ship owners.
4. New certification and better opportunities for seafarers.

National bodies responsible for maritime affairs will be embracing the course in the long term due to the improved training approach. The training will make shipping safer, reduce the number of accidents, reduce the human and material cost, reduce insurance costs and limit the damage to cargo and its effect on the environment such as oil spillages and its

associated contamination. The impact includes improving the competitiveness of EU shipping and the image of shipping and show that its a safe means of carrying cargo and individuals as well as make the sea's a safer place for all.

On a global scale, all these stated impacts such as the improvement of the quality of shipping operations, safer ships, cleaner oceans are key IMO aims and objectives. The IMO being the global maritime shipping authority under UN structure take such issues very seriously.

All partner countries to adopt the platform into their programme as a supplementary course into their existing MET programmes and run the course as short course programmes for industry. Apart from receiving approval from the partner universities.

The impact will be measured by the following qualitative and qualitative indicators:

- 1) The newly formulated SeaSAFER platform are used and promoted by their respective National Authorities of each project partner.
- 2) The project's final conference receives strong support for SeaSAFER from a wide array of stakeholders and from the EU Commission;
- 3) The project in its entirety receives considerable feedback from stakeholders that lead to talks with National Authorities, between Authorities from different Member States and with the EU Commission with the aim of implementing new regulations based on the results of the project.
- 4) When new Member States request to add the tool to a language format other than that produced by the product.
- 5) The ultimate indicator for the biggest conceivable impact of the project would be the inclusion of its objectives and results into EU maritime policy papers.

PROJECT MEETINGS/CONFERENCE

03-2021 | LMA | Lithuania

09-2021 | MBNA | Romania

11-2021 | IDEC | Greece

03-2022 | ENIDH | Portugal

09-2022 | LMA | Lithuania



PARTNERS

Lithuanian Maritime Academy (Contractor); Maritime Innovators (Partner);
Mircea cel Batran Naval Academy (Partner); Nikola Yonkov Vaptsarov Naval Academy (Partner);
National Maritime College (Partner); Aintek Symvouloi Epicheiriseon Efarmoges Ypsilis
Technologias Ekpaidefsi Anonymi Etaireia (Partner)



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