

Abstract

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Examining Key Elements For Managing The Challenges In Maritime Education and Training

ABSTRACT: The International maritime organization (IMO) has been leading the global shipping community in achieving the objective of producing well educated and trained seafarers, by establishing minimum global professional standards, which include skills, knowledge, and abilities needed to ensure the competency of seafarers for the role expected from them. However, maritime accidents studies highlight the fact that the human element is still the main factor contributing to maritime accidents worldwide directly indirectly. The Maritime Safety Committee of the IMO has clearly indicated that the potential causes of many accidents at sea are due to either deficiency in maritime education and training of seafarers, the disregard for the current regulations and standards. Hence, there could be a major deficiency in the process of preparing competent seafarers to fit for purpose, and obviously, the goal of IMO is not yet achieved despite all the efforts of ensuring a high standard of maritime education and training (MET). Unfortunately the development of an effective maritime education and training system for ensuring highly competent seafarers may face lots of challenges, including the changes in the global market demands, in addition to the rapid amendments to the requirements of seafarer's qualification due to the continuous development of the maritime technology and innovation. This research paper intends to examine the probable challenges facing the maritime education and training, aiming to identify key elements for ensuring a sustainable improvement and enhancement of the maritime education and training in order to cope with the maritime training needs of the 21st-century global maritime workforce. **Keywords:** Maritime, Seafarers, Education, Training, Challenges, Improvement.