

Abstract

Hesham M. Helal

Computer Based Training: A global survey of current developments and its application to maritime education and training

Abstract - The specialized training of marine students, seafaring cadets, and crewmembers has seen numerous changes in the last few decades. Reduction in personnel and budget cutbacks have led Maritime Education and Training (MET) institutions and shipping companies to utilize new forms of technology to achieve their training objectives. Training mariners at sea no longer remains the only option. Increased demands to reduce cost have led to the development of new training methodologies. The important goal of any method program is to ensure that quality training is achieved. With advances in computing power over the last few years, the ability to develop and run interactive media applications has advanced tremendously. Today's desktop and even laptop computers have the computational power, speed, and storage capacity to handle content-intensive multimedia software applications. Parallel with the gains in computing technology have also come rapid advances in training mediums available to instructors. This field of newly developed training mediums has become filled with terms: computer-based training (CBT), computer-based instruction (CBI), computer-assisted learning (CAL), online learning, multimedia instruction, and digital multimedia instruction, to name a few. Each of these terms and existing training systems put a slightly different spin on the same basic theme. This paper discusses the development and methodologies of Computer Based Training (CBT) from a global point of view, and their applications in MET institutions, and for onboard training. It also considers the impact of CBT on those involved in taking decisions in choosing the training media in MET and in shipping companies.