Abstract

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Learn by Doing: a case study to Assure a Quality Maritime Training and Education

Learn by doing is a concept that could be applied in the Maritime Education and Training field. It refers to the capability of the students to improve their knowledge by regularly repeating the same lessons, consequently increasing the quality and productivity of the Education and Training process, while the technology will play the main role in the learn by doing educational concept. The relation between academic maritime education and onboard training and technological development is an interactive relation. Academies and universities contribute to the development of human resources, so the introduction of sophisticated computer and advanced equipment will definitely play an important role not only in the method of conducting the syllabus and educational aids but also in the cadet's discipline onboard the training ship. Consequently, these will create a high educated, trained and disciplined seafarer, who will be familiar with new technologies that will produce learn by doing concept. This paper focuses on an important aspect of using information systems for education and training. Through such systems a quality controlled learn by doing Maritime Education and Training (MET) process could be achieved. In addition, the increasing numbers of MET students in the College of Maritime Transport & Technology require an improvement in the assurance system to satisfy the market needs for high quality seafarers compatible with the informatics' era. The Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport recognized the importance of these aspects and has taken major steps towards these important fields. This paper provides a brief overview of the current situation of the maritime education and training. A Quality Assured Information System is proposed called learn by doing. The system aims at automating the different running educational and training processes that are carried out with the aid of using RFID passive tags for enhancing and monitoring the process and linking to the headquarter main registration data base. The system considers the required modules and business flows within a proposed systems layout, detailed process automation outlined in order to illustrate a generic concept of automation, and a list of the expected features and benefits provided.