

WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITE MARITIME MONDIALE
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Established under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization
a specialized agency of the United Nations



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSE (PDC) for ISM DESIGNATED PERSONS

Inaugural Session 10-14 March 2008

Introduction

1. The Designated Person, as defined by the ISM Code, plays a major part in delivering the Safety Management System of a shipping company. It is the DP's responsibility to create the proper mind-set, attitudes and behaviour of the company employees working ashore in support of a vessel's operations. It is also the DP's responsibility to support and promote a positive attitude to safety and environmental protection by those working on ships. The DP is a key link in the safety chain.

The legal requirement

2. The legal obligations are clear: the ISM Code requires every shipping company to have in place a DP:

“To ensure the safe operation of each ship and to provide a link between the Company and those on board, every company, as appropriate, should designate a person or persons ashore having direct access to the highest level of management. The responsibility and authority of the safety and pollution prevention aspects of the operation of each ship and ensuring that adequate resources and shore based support are applied, as required.”

Strengthening enforcement

3. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has recently concluded that the ISM Code needs to be enforced more vigorously. With this in mind, the Organization promulgated on the 31 October 2007, two new Circulars to Member States, setting out new Guidelines relating to the operation of the Code.

4. Circular MSC-MEPC. 7/Circ.5 provides new “Guidelines for the Operational Implementation of the ISM Code by Companies”. This Circular includes a list of the main functions of the Designated Person. The associated IMO Circular (MSC-MEPC.7/Circ.6) provides “Guidance on the Qualifications, Training, and Experience Necessary for Undertaking the Role of the Designated Person Under the provisions of the ISM Code.”

Training in the necessary competencies

5. The Guidelines require (in paragraph 5.1 of MSC-MEPC. 7/Circ 6), the shipping company to provide training courses 'covering qualification, training and experience and the appropriate procedures connected to compliance with the ISM Code including practical training and continuous updating'.

Delivery arrangements

6. In response to this imperative, the World Maritime University, following consultation with industry partners, proposes to offer a series of Professional Development Courses (PDCs) for Designated Persons. The training programme available to DP's will take two optional forms: a week-long PDC programme delivered at the WMU Main campus in Malmö and a Distance-Learning programme, with the same course learning objectives, scope and course content as the Malmö delivered PDC. The Distance Learning programme, will be delivered by VIDEOTEL, an acknowledged global training provider, in collaboration with the WMU.

The PDC Programme Structure

7. The PDC Programme and the Distance Learning Programme will address the core competency requirements for a DP, based on six core modules:

- Background: "Setting the Scene"
- Legislation and the Regulatory Framework
- Risk Management
- Legal and Insurance issues
- Auditing
- Communications

Time- limited and Quality-assured

8. The University has designed a practitioner-based course which recognises the limited time available to DP's. The DP Programme is designed to provide a mix of the necessary theory and operational application within 5 days. The participants will receive a firm grounding in the legal framework and statutory obligations which condition the responsibilities of a DP; they will understand how the DP fits into a Safety Management System; how to address risk management, how document management and the audit process are linked; and they will learn the key elements for effective communication within the shipping company. Each of the core modules will include self-assessment tools, to enable the participants to evaluate their performance throughout the course programme.

The WMU Lecturing Team

9. The PDC programme will be delivered by a team of eminent professionals, both external and internal, who are the acknowledged global experts in the ISM Code and in the operation of maritime safety, security and environmental protection legislation.

Timescale

10. The University plans to hold the first PDC for Designated Persons from 10 March to 14 March 2008. The Distance Learning programme is planned to be launched in April/May 2008; registration details will be published shortly. The University therefore invites applications from Designated Persons; from potential Designated Persons; from interested members of senior management; and from personnel in the maritime sector involved in safety management activities.

Award

11. At the successful completion of the course each participant will receive a certificate signed by the President of the University specifying the Programme details.

Fees and accommodation

12. The fee is 2000 EURO per person inclusive of tuition, course material and lunches. Limited accommodation is available at the University hostel (one room apartment with kitchen facilities, 150 EURO per course); alternatively a list of hotels is available on the WMU website.

Registration

13. If you wish to attend this important Professional Development Course, please register your interest on the following web link www.wmu.se. The number of participants is limited to 15.

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