


HEALTH & SAFETY

Members invited to support study of colregs problems

 Nautilus members are being invited to take part in a new European Union-funded project which aims to improve understanding of the collision prevention regulations.

The two-year ACTS (Avoiding Collisions at Sea) study aims to address the problems which cause some seafarers to struggle with the interpretation and application of the colregs and to produce a special online training course.

The UK-based Centre for Factories

of the Future (C4FF) is coordinating the consortium of EU maritime education and training organisations involved in the project, which seeks to cut the number of collisions at sea.

The initiative was launched in response to concerns raised by accident investigation reports showing that many of the basic principles laid down by the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea 1972 are improperly understood and applied.

A recent study by C4FF showed that almost 50% of seafarers disregard or ignore the colregs when taking navigational decisions, and it also highlighted the common use of VHF radio in collision avoidance.

A key element of the research will focus on the knowledge gaps and deficiencies in the application of these rules, and an online questionnaire has been produced to get feedback on the issues.

Seafarers, maritime lecturers,

and non-professionals are invited to participate in the survey, which can be found at www.ecolregs.com.

Maritime professionals, including survey participants, will be invited to take part in follow-up workshops across the EU, including in the UK, to validate the findings of the questionnaire with EU experts in the field.

» If you would like to participate in these workshops, contact the project coordinator at: info@ecolregs.com.