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Centre for Factories of the Future with support from Piri Reis University and on behalf of the MariFuture Platform submitted a proposal to European Commission to hold a workshop on 22 May 2013 in European Maritime Day 2013 in Valetta, Malta.

The workshop titled "MariFuture: Integrating Maritime Education, Research and Innovation" intends to encourage and initiate discussions as to how the maritime industry's education needs can be identified and to find ways to respond to these needs through innovative and collaborative research development.

The workshop will be structured in the following objectives supporting EU's Integrated Maritime Policy:

- Identifying maritime education and training (MET) needs of the shipping industry
- Identifying the R&D needs
- Looking for solutions to problems faced by MET providers
- Looking for R&D solutions
- Promoting good practice
- Seeking funds for education and R&D projects
- Supporting projects MET projects
- Offering advice and guidance to the MET providers
- A point of contact for national and EU bodies regarding MET
- Representing the interests of the MET institutions in Europe

The provisional speakers are:

- Prof R Ziarati, Founder of MariFuture
- Dr M Ziarati, Centre for Factories of the Future, UK
- Capt. Heikki Koivisto, Satakunta University of Applied Sciences,
- FI Prof Peter Trenkner, IMEC Chair
- Dr S Kaptanoglu, Exec. Member, BIMCO
- Prof B Kjerfve, President, IMO/IMO University –TBC
- Capt Dr Janusz Uriasz, University of Szczecin,
- Head of EMSA –TBC



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All MariFuture partners are invited to join us in our workshop and contribute to discussions. Targeted audience for the workshop are Policy makers, Stakeholders, MET Providers, All rank of Seafarers Specialists individuals and bodies: EU Ministers, IMO, EMSA, Social partners, and involving the EU/EC.