



ACTS Project

The partners have been informed that the Croatian National Agency and the EU assessors have concluded their evaluation of the ACTs (www.ecolregs.com) final report submitted at the end of February 2016 and the project has been given a grade of 9 out of 10. This is excellent news. The partners are delighted with this outstanding recognition of their hard work in the last two and half years.

The final draft of the IPR for the project prepared by C4FF is expected to be finalised soon.

A new paper is being written for publication on the project results. The important aspect of the paper, partially published as the MariFuture's December Development Paper - http://www.marifuture.org/Reports/Development-Papers/ADP_11_2015_MARIFUTURE.pdf - is that it argues for the need for a new EU funded project (ACTS Plus) based on the Pareto analysis carried out as a part of the ACTs project. The Pareto analysis showed that some COLREGS rule are more complicated than others and that there are situations where a number of rules apply. The paper argues the importance of continuing the ACTs project both according to the plans for its post-funding sustainability and also by preparing a new proposal for EU funding (ACTS Plus). It is worth pointing out that as a result of the new paper a proposal was prepared by some the partners and submitted to the UK national agency. The project, if successful, will be led by Southampton Solent University and coordinated by C4FF. The result of the proposal is expected in August 2016.

MariePRO Project

MariePRO is a project to review maritime education and training programmes searching for good practice, and developing an ECVET compliant Maritime Environment Awareness course incorporating the existing IMO Model Course and the and any developments introduced by the IMO. More details about the project can be found in the Project page of MariFuture or at <http://www.utu.fi/en/units/cms/projects/mariepro/Pages/home.aspx>.

The partners held their final meeting and conference in Turku at the same time as the European Maritime Day (EMD), 16-20th May 2016. The final conference was very successful and over 50 delegates attended the event on 17th May 2016. Professor Ziarati, the Chairman and current Director of C4FF was invited to chair the panel at the MariePRO conference, titled 'Sustainable Shipping'. The keynote speeches by the President of the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) and Dr Sadan Kaptanoglu, Kaptanoglu Shipping and member of Board of BIMCO outlined the challenges the regulatory bodies and shipping companies are encountering. The most important consideration for the shipping companies was noted to be the survival and solvency against severe and adverse market conditions. The summary of the speech by Dr Kaptanoglu can be found in the MariFuture June 2016 Article.

MariEMS



The next meeting of the MariEMS (Maritime Energy Management Training Strategic Partnership) is planned for early September (7-9), 2016. More on the agenda and activities for this meeting in the next month News.

This project is expected to help reduce energy use on board ships and in port contributing to a significant reduction of marine pollutions and engine emissions. This project proposes the development of an energy management job and training specification, as well as an e-learning delivery system for the new role of the Energy Manager which has been created specifically for the shipping industry. The intention of MariEMS is also to encourage shipping companies to seek ISO 50001 certification.

Southampton Solent University is expected to run the first multiplier workshops seeking the views of maritime academics and industrialists on the current draft MariEMS training programme specification. The workshop is expected to held later in September 2016.



SeaTALK Project

The SeaTALK project was recently evaluated by the Commission, The SeaTALK Course was also accredited by IMarEST (Institution of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology) when it received recognition as a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) course. This is a major achievement as all professional Engineers, Scientists and Technologists are expected to develop themselves by taking part in CPD courses such as SeaTALK.



The European Commission evaluation of the SeaTALK project (www.seatalk.pro) is highly encouraging. The project scored 9 out of 10 for final results and 9 for dissemination. evaluation. The average grade awarded was 7.24.

The SeaTALK project was an important undertaking as it gathered all the accessible learning and teaching materials for English language aspects relevant to seafaring, and then developed content for Maritime English training in line with the IMO's new Model Course whilst ensuring compliance with the CEFR. The SeaTALK assessment system is based on the successful EU funded MarTEL and



MarTEL Plus projects. A great deal of work was devoted to ensure the assessment system is fair, repeatable, valid and relevant to the profession of each type and rank of seafarer.

The SeaTALK partners are working hard and gave their own time to ensure that the IMO's new Maritime English Model Course 3.17 receives all the support that it deserves. It is sad that the Course still excludes a provision for Ratings who form the majority of seafarers in all countries worldwide. It is pleasing to note however that there is now a provision for crew-passenger interactions. This provision should have been in place soon after the Scandinavian Star disaster in which many passengers lost their lives due to the poor communication and linguistic skills of the Ratings.

MariFuture will continue encouraging the IMO to recognise the importance of Maritime English and show that the longer it resists recognising English as the language of the sea then the livelihoods of many future passengers and crew members are at greater than necessary risk. However, the IMO should be given credit that its SOLAS codes recognise that, in a sense, English is seen as the language of the sea and through recognising SMCP it has again it has strengthened the hand of the member states and their shipping companies to recognise the importance of their crew members becoming competent in English language common maritime phrases.

MariLANG Project

The MariLANG project intends to develop a Maritime English training programme based on the EU funded SeaTALK learning materials and the EU funded MarTEL assessments, both of which are compliant with the IMO Maritime English Model (3.17). It is worth mentioning that partners from both SeaTALK and MarTEL were involved in the 2015 revision of the IMO Maritime English Model Course through the International Maritime Lecturers Association (IMLA). The funding of MariLANG is very good news as it will complete the process started with MarTEL establishing a Maritime English assessment system, followed by SeaTALK seeking material for it, in conclusion MariLANG will develop an actual training programme for Maritime English which will include the three new categories defined in the revised model course: Electro-Technical Officers, GMDSS radio operators, and Personnel providing direct service to passengers in passenger spaces on passenger ships.

A summary of all the projects can be found in www.marifuture.org. For further information about MariFuture please refer to the MariFuture website.

Dr Martin Ziarati

Edited by Faye Mundy and installed by Lakhvir Singh