

EMPA Recommendation on Pilots' Training

Introduction

European seaports need to be able to rely on skilled and properly trained pilots, because the quality of a pilot service depends above all, on the training and experience of the pilots.

The appropriate training of pilots guarantees they're own protection taking the consideration the risks that they are exposed.

Consideration

Taking into account:

- The safety of maritime pilots and crews;
- The protection of the marine environment;
- The safety and efficiency of the flow of marine traffic;
- IMO Resolution A.960(23) – Recommendations on Training and Certification and on Operational Procedures for Maritime Pilots other than Deep-Sea Pilots;
- Regulation (EU) 2017/352 of the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers establishing a framework for the provision of port services and common rules on the financial transparency of ports.

Policy

- I The role of EMPA is to facilitate the exchange of information between its members to continuously improve the professional and technical proficiency of Maritime Pilots in its Member Associations, Pilots within the EU, and in neighbouring countries.
- EMPA aims to assure the safety of all Maritime Pilots in the EU and neighbouring countries by increasing the safety and efficiency of navigation, thereby enhancing environmental protection from ship-borne pollutants.
- EMPA strongly defends and advocates that Pilotage as an essential and unique service to the shipping industry, can only be performed in an environment free from competition.
- EMPA aims to work at the forefront of our profession and collaborate with all stakeholders.



- EMPA recommendations offer practical advice, drawing from its members' collective knowledge and experience, to be read in addition to local, national, and international regulations. These recommendations provide information to Pilots, shipowners, and Captains, advising also, stakeholders that directly or indirectly impact the maritime industry.
- EMPA recommendations should be read in conjunction with equipment instructions and manuals. These recommendations are to support training, not replace training and are not to be interpreted as conflicting with local, national, or international regulations.
- Initial and continuous training is the guarantee that pilotage services will be provide at its best level;
- IMO Res. A.960(23) sets the standards for initial training and continued proficiency, establishing on Anex I - item 5, the requirements for training and certification or licensing standards, and in item 6, the requirements for continued proficiency;
- Regulation (EU) 2017/352 of the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers establishing a framework for the provision of port services and common rules on the financial transparency of ports, establishes on CHAPTER IV - GENERAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS - Article 14 "Training of staff" – *"Providers of port services shall ensure that employees receive the necessary training to acquire the knowledge which is essential for their work, with particular emphasis on health and safety aspects, and that training requirements are regularly updated to meet the challenges of technological innovation."*

EMPA Recommends

- In the interest of the safety and efficiency of navigation and protection of the environment, the European Maritime Pilots' Association strongly recommends that all Members Associations fully comply with - IMO Res. A.960(23) – Recommendations on Training and Certification and on Operational Procedures for Maritime Pilots other than Deep-Sea Pilots - [http://www.imo.org/blast/blastDataHelper.asp?data_id=27137&file_name=A960\(23\).pdf](http://www.imo.org/blast/blastDataHelper.asp?data_id=27137&file_name=A960(23).pdf)
 - as a minimum standard requirements for initial and continuous training.



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- EMPA must emphasise that further training, like helicopter and pilot boat transfer, and all other additional specific/local requirements, that involve personal risk for pilot, pilot boat and ship crews, or navigation, should be developed and strictly followed.

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