



# MARINE TRANSPORT WORKER'S TRADE UNION OF UKRAINE E - BULLETIN

Dear All!

NOVEMBER 2020

The Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine is always there to take care about its members – seafarers and their families. The Union extends its social coverage to seafarers, both when they are at sea and ashore. In order to keep you informed of our activities, we have developed this monthly E-BULLETIN, aimed to guide you through our most recent and significant achievements and activities, provided by our Union. Any suggestions and proposal are very welcome. Stay tuned for more information!

The MTWTU team works every day, striving to do its best for the Ukrainian seafarers and their families. Significant efforts are still focused on keeping them abreast of the most crucial industry developments concerning the Ukrainian seafarers and their employment onboard the foreign-flagged ships worldwide during COVID-19 crisis.

**Furthermore, all Ukrainian seafarers-MTWTU members, are entitled to apply for financial assistance from the Union, if they are unable to get employment onboard the ship for more than 6 months from the end of last contract, as well as if they are facing employment delays due to COVID-19 quarantine measures and travel restrictions.**

Your sincerely, Oleg Grygoriuk  
First Vice Chairman MTWTU  
Vice President IFSMA,  
Goodwill Maritime Ambassador IMO



## RULES OF THE EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT ONBOARD

This time our seafarers got a chance to learn about leadership and efficient management onboard from the psychologist and business coach Olena Sen'ko.

There is a difference between being a boss and being a leader: you can become a boss if you have relevant knowledge and skills, while leadership is something that you are born with.

Taking into account that a ship is associated with an extreme environment, enclosed space, there are certain specifics of the crew management at the points of the human element, safety measures and conflicts resolution.

As most seafarers are willing to achieve officers' ranks, the seminar was dedicated to those rules which help managing the crew efficiently. For example, the true leader should be able to interact with his team and be open for communication be open, but without breaking the chain of command.



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## SEAFARERS' FINANCIAL LITERACY

USAID, jointly with the National Bank of Ukraine, have surveyed the Ukrainians financial literacy in 2019. According to the study, in Ukraine, a large part of the population do not consider themselves financially literate. Many seafarers are most concerned of how to live a decent life after the end of a career and how to financially protect themselves and their loved ones in the future.

The MTWTU once again organized the financial literacy training for Ukrainian seafarers. The event participants learned how to properly manage personal finances to achieve their goals, how to avoid mistakes in managing their finances and how savings can work effectively for seafarers.



## AN INCREDIBLY USEFUL ADVANCED DRAFT SURVEY COURSE FOR SEAFARERS CARRIED OUT IN THE MTWTU MARITIME COMPETENCY ENHANCEMENT CENTER

This topic is highly relevant, since a great number of financial losses of shipowners and insurance companies are related to cargo shortages, which can occur due to incorrect determination of its quantity onboard the vessel.

The attendees got to analyze the realities of international arbitration processes, learned about the specific issues of the respective documentation and performed basic Draft Survey calculations during the practical part of the Course.

At the end of the event its participants received certificates of completion from the EdMarine educational project.



## SCRUBBERS

One topic, five hours, a million questions – this is the most accurate description of one of the recent seminars held jointly with the EdMarine platform.

Scrubbers or Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems (EGCS) are used to remove particulate matter and harmful components from the exhaust gases, and they are being installed on vessels following the IMO 2020 regulations.

It works on the principle of washing exhaust gases from the engines with sea water and absorbing acid gases. After that, this water can be discharged overboard (if permitted) or sent to the shore authority. It requires a lot of money to install scrubbers and well trained personnel to deal with. During the seminar, the participants discussed the following topics:

- MARPOL basic requirements for cleaning the exhaust gases of the main engine elements;
- Types of Scrubbers: advantages and disadvantages of their operation;
- International and regional regimes and restrictions;
- Rules for logging Scrubbers' operating parameters;
- Working with the software on a real system software example.



## SAFETY OF MOORING OPERATIONS

MTWTU held a joint seminar with the Learnmarine project dedicated to the safety of mooring operations in the perspective of the new IMO regulations.

Before the seminar started, the participants got an opportunity to communicate with the Assistant of the ITF Inspector in Ukraine, the MTWTU Inspector, who told them about the Union's work with seafarers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Within the framework of the seminar, the attendees revised possible incidents which may arise during mooring operations, learned about the Mooring System Management Plan and the principles of Ship Mooring Simulator's work.



## MTWTU&OMS VR TRAININGS CONTINUE

This month the seafarers revised the algorithm of checking of ship fire-fighting equipment and practiced launching rescue equipment.



## **ITF: SEAFARERS ARE THE VICTIMS OF THE ECONOMICAL FIGHT BETWEEN BEIJING AND CANBERRA**

China has labelled Australian coal as poor quality as hundreds of seafarers languish on stranded bulk carriers off the Chinese coastline, unable to offload their cargoes in the ongoing political spat between Beijing and Canberra.

“All governments – be it flag States, port States, or the seafarers’ home countries – need to lift their game to make it easier to perform needed crew changes of this tired and fatigued workforce. Government restrictions

and lack of coordination between different government agencies remains the main barrier to getting crew changed,” - ITF Seafarers’ and Inland Navigation Section Coordinator, Fabrizio Barcellona, said.

The MTWTU has been contacted by the Ukrainian seafarers who got stuck onboard at China ports anchorage : the crew is exhausted and the atmosphere is quite upsetting. We, in turn, addressed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine with a request to clarify the issue with Chinese authorities. The response we got sounded as: “China is not going to ease restrictions on discharging the cargo, however, no one prevents the vessel from calling at another port or country where the crew change is permitted.”

Sources: ITF Seafarers, Splash247

