

SOFTWARE NEWS

Teledata e-learning initiative with Singapore

www.teledata-usa.com

Teledata Marine Systems has embarked on a maritime e-learning initiative with SMA-SP (Singapore Maritime Academy), developing tools for training seafarers and superintendents, under the DNV SeaSkills program.

The ship superintendency program is planned for release in July 2005, based in DNV standards for ship superintendents. The seafarer training software is planned for release in June 2006.

Seafarers will be able to update their skills, taking Singapore Maritime Academy courses, but spend time with their families in their own homes at the same time.

"After a few months at sea officers deserve to stay at home with their families instead of having to sit in a classroom for

months, sometimes a year, in preparing for their competency examinations," says Capt. S. Kishore, vice president of maritime e-learning with Teledata.

When seafarers have completed the training at home, they can do a short preparatory classroom training in Singapore and then take the exams.

The superintendents course covers technical and commercial management of ships, including solving complex technical problems which arise mid voyage, dealing with international regulations, complexities with insurance, cargo claims, pollution and security.

The course can be delivered by computer. Students can communicate with course leaders and other candidates. The course leaders include senior ship superintendents, fleet managers, ship surveyors, shipyard managers and others.

Seagull integrates training administrator with crew management system

www.seagull.no

Computer based training company Seagull has integrated its training administrator software, which monitors which training programs individual seafarers have made, with the Crew Manager software by Polish company MarIT.

This enables exchange of personnel data between the two systems, reducing

data retyping.

Shipping companies can access crew administration and training information on the same screen.

Following advice from several other clients, Seagull is in the process of developing interfaces to match the software of several suppliers of personnel management systems, including BASS, OCS and ADONIS.

Fortune sells Microsoft for shipping

www.frtntech.com

George Marinakis, previously sales manager of Danaos, has taken on a new role as sales manager of Fortune Technologies in Athens, which is adapting Microsoft Business Solutions Navision software for ship operations.

The company claims that its Microsoft-based software offers better return on investment and lower cost of ownership than other business applications on the market. The software can be installed and implemented in weeks.

The company is currently implementing software for in big projects for two shipping companies in Piraeus, Greece, which it is unable to name.

It makes use of Microsoft office applications wherever possible, for example data can be automatically exported to Excel. The software has a familiar Microsoft Outlook menu.

There are tools to enable data to be easily exported in XML and share business documents.

All customers can get support from Microsoft Business Solutions teams around the world.

The data is in open source, so companies can do further developments themselves if they like.

The Microsoft Navision Business Notifications software enables users to automatically generate and send e-mails to other department users, suppliers, remote offices and industry partners. The business notifications can be designed to pre-defined templates.

There are tools to manage key performance indicators - to users get fast insight into their business health - such as financial management, supply chain management, planned maintenance. These can be viewed in graphical displays.



Microsoft for shipping - extensive reporting capabilities



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Repsol and Q88 integrate websites

www.ryttsavetting.com
www.Q88.com

The shipping division of Spanish oil giant Repsol, Repsol YPF Trading y Transporte, has integrated its online questionnaire with Q88.com, a tool developed by Heidenreich Innovations of Connecticut to automatically fill out shipping company's questionnaires.

Q88 customers will now be able to complete Repsol YPF's web based vetting questionnaire directly on Q88.com. The data is sent automatically into Repsol's IT system.

The Q88 web site was launched in June 2001 and according to the company there are currently 350 questionnaires available, which are being used by over 190 owners representing 2,500 vessels.

However the Repsol deal is particularly significant because the data can be sent automatically to Repsol out of the Q88 system, rather than being printed out, faxed or e-mailed, as with other questionnaires.

GL introduces bulk cargo compliance database

www.gl-group.com

Germanischer Lloyd has developed a tool called PROTOS (Provisions for Transportation of Solid Bulk Cargoes) to help bulk carriers obtain certification of the type of cargoes they can carry.

Such a 'bulk certificate', while not mandatory, would aid vessels in meeting the regulations of states that require proof of compliance with international law.

The PROTOS database contains comprehensive information about all requirements relating to the structural and equipment aspects in relation to different cargoes to be conveyed.

On the basis of a ship survey, the requirement catalogue of PROTOS and an examination of the ship documents, a bulk certificate can be issued.

GL says that the new system will offer shipowners a comprehensive certification, the transparency and consistency of which offers clarity and ease of examination for the approving authorities concerned with hazardous goods, avoiding delays in the cargo-handling process.

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BOOKIT expands in North America and Finland

www.hogia.fi
www.finnlink.fi
www.nfl-bay.com

US Great Lakes ferry company Bay Ferries has chosen the BOOKIT internet based reservation system by Hogia Ferry Systems for its Rochester-Toronto service between the USA and Canada. The system is to be introduced at the beginning of the summer.

Bay Ferries already uses BOOKIT on two other routes and the system is used in total for about forty ferry services, mainly in Europe.

Bay Ferries says that the software's functionality, long term maintainability and ease of use were factors in its decision.

Another reason for choosing BOOKIT was that the system is in compliance with the new security regulations, introduced so that the American authorities can check up on passengers entering the USA.

Meanwhile Finnlink, operator of cargo and passenger services between Finland and Sweden, has also chosen the Hogia system to manage bookings for car passengers on board its Naantali-Kapellskar route, as part of an initiative to be more user friendly to car customers.

The company says the

Copenhagen Malmö Port uses Tideworks

www.tideworks.com

Tideworks Technology, a provider of terminal management and planning software solutions, will provide a terminal management solution for Copenhagen Malmö Port (CMP).

Project implementation is scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2005 and will be managed by Tideworks' European office located in Rotterdam, Netherlands

As part of the agreement, CMP will deploy Tideworks WiseTerm, a solution for managing multi-purpose cargo and container terminals, WiseCare for warehousing and inventory control, and WiseTalk, a tool for communicating with customers and third parties.

The software can be used for all aspects of cargo and terminal management, including resource management, vessel services and billing functionality.

"We have chosen Tideworks as the best solution among more than 15 possible suppliers," says Copenhagen Malmö Port.

new reservation and administration system enables improved customer service without large investments in its sales organisation. "This reservation system is a good alternative to using an external sales network," says Virpi Kaitio, customer service manager of Finnlink.

SIS appoints agents in the Americas

www.sismarine.com

Star Information Systems, a leading supplier of integrated fleet and ship management software, has appointed two agents in Brazil and Canada.

In Canada and the United States, SIS

is represented by BlueWave IT Systems Inc, which has been involved in implementation at Inter-ocean Umland Management Corporation in Voorhees, NJ, while in Brazil Interage Sistem as Gerenciais Integ-rados Ltda will represent the company.

Polestar