NEWSLETTER No. 178



QUALITY SHIPPING, SAFER SEAS, CLEANER OCEANS

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EMSA Wishing all our readers a very happy 2020!

EMSA ADOPTS NEW AGENCY STRUCTURE REFLECTING PRIORITIES OF LATEST 5-YEAR STRATEGY

EMSA kicks off the year with both a new five-year strategy and a new organisation chart, fully adapted to reflect the highlighted priorities of the new strategy (sustainability, safety, security, simplification and surveillance). From the beginning of January, the work of the Agency is being structured around four departments and eleven units. While the Executive Director continues to be supported by a dedicated bureau, the former departments have now been re-arranged to cover: sustainability and technical assistance; safety, security & surveillance; digital services and simplification; and, corporate services.



TRAFFIC DENSITY MAPS FOR A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF MARITIME TRAFFIC

On 20 December EMSA announced the release by EMODnet of the Agency's Traffic Density Maps (TDM) which offer a simple and effective way of displaying ship movement patterns. The maps are expected to contribute to a better understanding of maritime traffic, enabling authorities to make risk assessments, improve traffic planning and enhance overall ship safety. The TDM are generated using AIS data received by EMSA from the Agency's data providers. This data is then processed to recreate the track of each individual ship from its recorded positions. The TDM are available to the public from EMODnet Human Activities, the European Commission's entry point to geographic information on the use of the oceans. This was possible thanks to an agreement signed between EMSA and DG MARE. Users can now browse through months and years to see how traffic has changed, viewing the entire traffic fleet, or focussing only on certain ship types of specific interest. The service is also available to authorised users from EMSA's SafeSeaNet Ecosystem Graphical User Interface (SEG).



EMSA APPEARS BEFORE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

EMSA's Executive Director appeared on 3 December 2019 before the European Parliament's Transport and Tourism Committee to give an overview of the Agency's 2020-2024 strategy and to exchange views with MEPs. Particular areas of interest to the MEPs were: EMSA's upcoming involvement in what is known as the Commission's Green Deal and the Agency's place in the roadmap towards decarbonisation; the Agency's capabilities in the area of drone surveillance; crew safety; and, combating marine pollution.



INVESTIGATING SAFETY CULTURE & ASSESSING PROCEDURES ON BOARD SHIPS INVOLVED IN MARINE ACCIDENTS

On 4 December, EMSA hosted the fourth intersessional workshop of the Permanent Cooperation Framework of Accident Investigation Bodies (PCF) in which delegates from 18 member states discussed aspects related to human and organisational factors in marine accident investigation. The event was focussed on assessing the safety culture as well as on the impact of procedures on board ships and on shipping companies. Experts in safety, ergonomics and human factors (DMAIB, Intergo BV, Safe Marine Ltd) delivered well-received presentations and facilitated a fruitful debate between the participants. Representatives from the University of Strathclyde provided information concerning Safemode, an ongoing EU-funded project in the area of the human element. The PCF expressed interest in broadening the understanding of this complex topic and underlined its central role in high quality accident investigation. Based on the discussions, the PCF (with EMSA as its secretariat) will work together to further develop a common understanding on the approach for investigating human and organisational factors following marine casualties and incidents.



ADVANCED LEVEL TRAINING FOR ACCIDENT INVESTIGATORS

The first session of the advanced level training for marine accident investigators was organised at EMSA on 25-29 November. Delegates from 15 member states attended the course focussed on human factors, accident analysis and report writing. The participants - all experienced investigators actively engaged in exchanging their views based on experience in the field and gave positive feedback on the course. While the training structure was designed by EMSA in close cooperation with the Permanent Cooperation Framework of Accident Investigation Bodies (PCF) in order to capture real user needs, the course content and use cases were developed and delivered by an external contractor under the Agency's supervision. This

Users can select a ship type and then browse by month, season, year, etc.

EMSA HOLDS MARITIME SAFETY CAPACITY BUILDING SEMINAR FOR INDONESIAN ADMINISTRATION

On the 10-11 December 2019 EMSA held a Maritime Safety Capacity Building seminar for the Indonesian Administration in cooperation with the European Commission's DG for Mobility and Transport. The two-day event took place at EMSA and involved 11 participants from the Indonesian maritime administration. The seminar's agenda included a wide range of topics which covered the EU Institutional framework, the main areas of activities and cooperation between the European Commission and EMSA, as well as the most recent trends and innovative technical solutions in shipping. The prepared programme offered a brief but complete overview of EMSA activities in the field of maritime safety while remaining interactive and engaging. In this context, there was also a practical demonstration of tools and maritime applications as well as a visit to the Maritime Support Services centre located within EMSA premises.

course integrates the current offer of training support to the Accident Investigation community.



COMMON INFORMATION SHARING ENVIRONMENT: SHARING BEST PRACTICES

The first best practice workshop under the Transitional Phase of CISE was held at EMSA on 11 December 2019. Participants with different backgrounds and profiles – both those interested in joining the CISE network and those who have already been involved for many years – actively engaged in sharing their experiences and needs through dedicated brainstorming sessions, focussing on a variety of issues such as organisational, financial, technical and operational challenges in the setting up of a CISE node as part of the CISE network. This was an important exercise as it enabled member state and EU agency representatives to identify those areas requiring focus during the transition phase.





EMSA.EUROPA.EU VACANCIES: Traineeship notice for Spring 2020 (19/12/2019); National Experts in Professional Training for Spring 2020 (16/1/2020)

PROCUREMENT: THETIS enhancement and maintenance (17/2/2020); Provision of interim support services (29/1/2020); Development and maintenance of master databases (5/2/2020). See website for more information.