

DP Sea Time Reduction Course

The period of supervised DP sea time days after the Simulator Course may be reduced by a maximum of 30 days by the satisfactory completion of an intensive DP Simulator Course. This course can be done straight after the Simulator Course, but trainee DPOs are required to do a minimum of 30 DP sea time days on board a classed DP vessel and have the Statement of Suitability signed by Master after the course. A company confirmation letter is required for verification of that DP sea time.

As with the other components of the scheme, all DP time or courses leading to reduction of DP time must have been completed within the previous five years. The Sea Time Reduction training cannot be used for upgrading a certificate from Limited to Unlimited.

Objective:

Operation of a DP System:

- Demonstrate the ability to set up and operate the DP system under the various control modes, and to carry out manual, mixed manual and automatic and fully automatic manoeuvres.
- Demonstrate within the DP Simulator the operation of position reference systems, sensors and peripheral equipment associated with the DP system.

DP Operations

- Interpret vessel plans and specifications, capability diagrams and other data relevant to the planning and conduct of DP operations.
- Using vessel and other data, assess the capability of the vessel to successfully complete any proposed operation.
- Carry out a risk assessment exercise on proposed operations and determine the level of redundancy appropriate.
- Make appropriate contingency plans to cover any foreseeable system failure or operational requirement. Contingency planning to include appropriate escape routes for the vessel.
- Demonstrate compliance with appropriate procedures to be followed when approaching any work site and transferring from conventional vessel control to DP control.
- Demonstrate effective completion of pre-DP and other checklists.
- Demonstrate the effective communications necessary during DP operations and the testing procedures.
- Conduct vessel positioning maneuvers and station keeping functions following operational plan and procedures.
- Organize DP watchkeeping procedures observing recognized safe working practices.
- Conduct appropriate watch handover procedures, completing appropriate checklists.
- Maintain the appropriate logbooks and records pertaining to DP operations.
- Evaluate the various information, warning and alarm messages communicated to the operator.
- Relate the content of the messages in 2.12 above to the actions necessary in relation to the DP operation.

Emergency Procedures

- Recognize the conditions that will cause degraded operational status or emergency status.
- Recognize the warnings and alarms associated with worst case failure.
- Evaluate the various factors to be taken into account subsequent to any system failure and determine appropriate actions
- Carry out procedures to stabilise the vessel position and heading subsequent to a variety of system failures and take appropriate decisions and actions relating to the continuance or abandonment of the operation. This to include the following:
 - Thruster fail to max pitch.
 - Setpoint/feedback offset.
 - Loss of all position reference system, entering move into DP system when in Dead Reckoning mode.
 - Worst case failure and action to be taken.
 - Movement of position reference systems