

WORKSHOP

TITLE: Fusion of Content and Skill in MarTEL Maritime English Standards.

AUTHORS: Mr. SERHAN SERNIKLI
Senior Maritime English Lecturer, TUDEV, Turkey
Member of MarTEL Project Task Force, Turkey.

Mr. AYDIN SIHMANTEPE
Maritime English Lecturer, TUDEV, Turkey

INSTITUTION: TUDEV Institute of Maritime Studies, Turkey
Istasyon Mah., Hacıoğlu Sok. No:3, Tuzla
Istanbul-TURKEY

Phone: +90 216 581 00 41

Fax: +90 216 446 70 05

E-mail: ssernikli@gmail.com

SUMMARY: Starting point of MarTEL Project was to create standards in testing Maritime English (MarE) of three groups of seafarers, namely; the would-be cadets of maritime academies (Phase 1), graduates of these academies and the officers of junior rank (Phase 2) and the seafarers of senior level who are captains, chief engineers, pilots and other high level port authority personnel (Phase 3). Furthermore, the project also aims to create some sort of standardization for teaching of MarE by way of designing “study guidelines” and “study units” for each of its phases.

The workshop intends to focus on the second phase of MarTEL which is regarded as the core of the project. In this phase, MarTEL brings a new approach to the testing of MarE as it upholds the language element above the maritime knowledge and distinguishes the language skill levels of deck and engineering officers. Therefore it is designed as a “skill based” test which assesses the English proficiency of the test taker in maritime context and based on criterion referencing.

When it comes to the studying or preparing for the test, MarE is expected to be taught through a content of maritime knowledge. The aim is to design a certain type of teaching material which will successfully combine the language skills with the aspects of Maritime Competency. Therefore an allocation of language skills to the selected topics of maritime knowledge is needed. The workshop intends to ponder this allocation and its pros and cons.

PROGRAM: (*Running Time: 1 hour*)

00:00 – 00:10 minutes: **Introduction;** explanation of the aims and stages of the workshop, a general and brief survey of MarTEL Project works and phases through a power point presentation.

00:10 – 00:15 minutes: **Remarks;** invitation to the participants to give their remarks on the general aspects of the MarTEL Maritime English Standards.

00:15 – 00:20 minutes: **Preliminary Study;** explanation of the *MarTEL Study Guidelines for Phase 2 Deck and Engineering Officers* to the participants through a power point presentation.

00:20 -00 40 minutes: **Group Study;** formation of two groups from the participants and declaration of the topic questions:

a) Do content based study and skill based testing contradict each other or are they (or could be made) complementary for Maritime English competency?

b) What can be the optimum skill and content allocation in MarE for deck and engineering officers?

Study and discussion of the answers by the group members. The authors will join the groups to support the discussions.

00:40 – 00:50 minutes: **Conclusions;** the speakers of the groups will present their conclusions to the participants and answer to possible questions.

00:50 – 00:60 minutes: **Open discussion and general remarks;** the participants will be invited to give their views on the two remaining questions which are:

a) Can the study guidelines for the MarTEL tests be used as “the guidelines for trainers’ training” in the future?

b) How MarTEL standards at this level/phase could be improved?

00:60 + few minutes: **End statement;** authors’ closing statement briefly summarizing the workshop conclusions and thanking to the participants for their involvement.

REQUESTED EQUIPMENT: A computer running Microsoft Office 2007 and with a projector connection. There will be sufficient amount of blank sheets and writing utensils for participants.

Brief CV’s of the Authors:

Serhan Sernikli, born in 1964, in Istanbul/Turkey; he started his maritime career by entering Naval High School/Istanbul in 1978. After graduating from Naval Academy in 1986, he served in the Turkish Navy for 20 years. Retiring in 2006, he started to teach Maritime English in TUDEV and is a member of the MarTEL Task fForce based at TUDEV.

Aydin Sihmantepe, born in 1964, in Istanbul/Turkey; he started his maritime career by entering Naval High School/Istanbul in 1978. After graduating from Naval Academy in 1986, he served in the Turkish Navy for 22 years, retiring in 2008. Holding a master’s degree in International Relations he lectures on Maritime English in TUDEV.