

ACTs Project Newsletter - Issue 4



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Project Progress

The main focus of the last few months of the ACTs project has been External Evaluation. The first rounds of these evaluations have now been included in all required countries. For each evaluation an independent report was produced containing the results and feedback for the ACTs project team.

These reports were reviewed and areas for improvement in the ACTs course were identified and discussed at the Final Partner Meeting. These improvements were transformed into specific tasks and have been implemented in the remaining months of the project.

The 2nd round of external piloting is underway.

The Final ACTs partner meeting was held in Croatia and alongside the 2015 IAMU General Assembly. ACTs was formally presented to IAMU delegates who were invited to try the course and provide feedback.

All scenarios are available on the ACTs website with final revisions being made to the cosmetics of the platform.

Final Piloting

It has been decided among the partners that a second round of piloting will take place and feedback will be gathered and implemented before the final version of the ACTs course is posted online by mid-December 2015.

This piloting will take place in 5 Partner countries: Croatia, Turkey, Bulgaria, Slovenia and Spain. The purpose of the second piloting is for new representatives of the target groups to review the full ACTs course after the recommendations from the first piloting have all been implemented.

The second piloting will result in a report from each partner country. These reports are due by 30/11/2015.

This gives feedback to the Partners who will then implement the recommendations to create the final version of the ACTs course to be made available online at the end of the project.

***"From December 2015
the ACTs Course will be a
tool to help all seafarers
better interpret COLREGs"
Dr Martin Ziarati, C4FF***



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ACTs Course online by December 2015!

The ACTs partners are pleased to announce that by mid-December 2015 the full ACTs course will be online and available at www.ecolregs.com

The ACTs course consists of over 280 scenario's each demonstrating the application of a COLREGs rule. Each scenario will walk the learner through a situation and how the COLREGs should be correctly applied.

An Assessment quiz is presented so the learner can test their understanding of the scenario and how to interpret and apply the COLREGs in the future.

The ACTs COLREGs course will be available in 6 EU languages: English, Bulgarian, Croatian, Spanish, Slovenian and Turkish.

Future work is being planned to develop additional scenario's that cover more complex multi-rule situations. More information about this will be made available in due course.

ACTs at IAMU 2015

The ACTs final conference took place as part of the International Association of Maritime Universities (IAMU) General Assembly. Presenting ACTs at IAMU provided the opportunity to meet colleagues attending the IAMU Assembly and to seek their feedback on the ACTs project outcomes.

There were a number of presentations by the project team and a panel of project representatives were present throughout the IAMU General Assembly to answer any questions.

The project team also established a computer bank where delegates of IAMU could try out the ACTs online course for themselves throughout the conference.

It should be noted that feedback from IAMU delegates attending ACTs presentations and trying the course was very positive.

As the Final Partner Meeting was taking place alongside the IAMU General Assembly this allowed the partners to gather and have the feedback they were receiving and make plans for any adjustments to the course, or follow up work to be carried out in the post-funding period, in order for the ACTs course to continue to meet, and exceed, industry and academic needs.



Capt. Djani Mohovic presenting the panel members to IAMU participants at the ACTs final conference

Representation of Maritime Community exploring the capability of ACTs online course



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Further Dissemination

A series of meetings took place between Professor Ziarati (C4FF Chairman) and senior IMO and IALA officials as well as other representatives from prominent maritime organisations in September 2015. The meetings provided opportunities to discuss the ACTs project, its online course, and how the project could work with these organisations to develop and exploit the course in the post funding period.

The feedback received was positive as they acknowledged that more work needs to be done to improve safety at sea - with COLREGs being one area of focus. These talks are ongoing.

Further Project News

More news of the progress of the ACTs project will be available on the ACTs website as of December 2015.

If you would like to try out the ACTs scenarios then please visit:

www.ecolregs.com