

Project number: 518314-LLP-1-2011-1-UK-LEONARDO-LAM

Funding Programme: Leonardo Da Vinci – Accompanying measures

Deliverable 3.4: Questionnaire for 1st IMPACT Conference

Deliverable Co-ordinator: Dr. Martin Ziarati

Deliverable Co-ordinating Organisation: C4FF

Contributors:

Martin Ziarati (C4FF)	Reza Ziarati (TUDEV)
Heikki Koivisto (SUAS)	Tomaz Gregoric (SPIN)
Jane O’Keeffe (NMCI)	

 <p>C4FF Developing the Future</p> <p>Centre for Factories of the Future</p>	 <p>TUDEV Institute of Maritime Studies</p>	 <p>NMCI National Maritime College of Ireland Coláiste Náisiúnta Mara na hÉireann</p> <p>National Maritime College of Ireland</p>	 <p>samk Satakunnan ammattikorkeakoulu Satakunta University of Applied Sciences</p> <p>Satakunta University of Applied Sciences</p>	 <p>SPINAKEr.si Nautično izobraževanje</p> <p>SPINAKEr D.O.O</p>
---	---	--	---	---

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

IMPACT Consortium

This document is part of the IMPACT project, financed with the EC funds in the domain of "Lifelong Learning Programme" managed by EACEA, number 518314-LLP-1-2011-1-UK-LEONARDO-LAM. The following partners are involved in the IMPACT project:

- C4FF - Centre for Factories of the Future, Coventry, UK (www.c4ff.co.uk).
- TUDEV Institute of Maritime Studies, Tuzla, Turkey (www.tudev.com.tr).
- MMCI, National Maritime College of Ireland (www.nmci.ie)
- SAMK - Satakunta University of Applied Sciences, Pori, Finland (www.samk.fi).
- SPINAKER d.o.o., Portoroz, Slovenia (www.spinaker.si)

Work package participants

The following partners have taken an active part in the work leading to the elaboration of this document, even if they might not have directly contributed writing parts of this document:

- C4FF, Coventry, UK, Project Promoter (www.c4ff.co.uk)
- TUDEV, Tuzla, Turkey (www.tudev.com.tr)
- MMCI, Co.Cork, Ireland (www.nmci.ie)
- SAMK, Rauma, Finland (www.samk.fi)
- SPINAKER d.o.o., Portoroz, Slovenia (www.spinaker.si)

Reviews History

Version	Date	Modifier	Remarks
0.1	11/12/2012	Chris Barry, Ugurcan Acar	First draft of document
0.1	11/12/2012	Chris Barry, Ugurcan Acar with support from partners	Final

Executive Summary

The IMPACT project delivered the MaritimeTraining platform, which provides access to a number of innovative IT-based Maritime Education and Training (MET) products; these products directly address particular problems or deficiencies in MET.

As part of the dissemination activities for the IMPACT project, a conference was held in Bled, Slovenia, on 20th November 2012, at which a number of professional associations, organisations and VET institutions were represented. Following the end of the presentations and discussions, the participants were asked to complete a questionnaire to provide feedback on the products and conference proceedings as a whole.

The feedback obtained from the completed forms will be instrumental in the continued improvement and development of the MaritimeTraining platform and any future events that take place to disseminate the product.

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	8
2. Overall Feedback from the Conference	9
2.1. Feedback for Each Aspect of the Conference	9
2.2. How Did You Hear About the Conference	9
3. Further Comments	10
3.1. Additional Comments Made by Participants	10
3.2. Industry Publications Targeted	10
3.3. Professional Associations Represented by Attendees	11
4. Comments on the Products of the Platform	11
4.1. NetOSKAR	11
4.2. MarTEL	11
4.3. Maider	11
4.4. MEP	11
4.5. eGMDSS	12
4.6. MarEng	12
4.7. Captains	12
4.8. Seagull Training System	12
4.9. ALEOPS	12
4.10. Surpass	12
5. Conclusion and recommendation	12

List of figures

1. Introduction

This document contains information pertaining to questionnaire results collected from attendees and participants of the IMPACT project conference, which took place on 20th November 2012 in Bled, Slovenia.

Participants were distributed a questionnaire requesting that they grade the overall event on its speakers, organisation, programme, venue, document pack, and administration, also giving an overall score. Space was also provided for participants to give overall comments, make recommendations of parties who may be interested in further conferences, indicate which industry they advertise in, and which professional associations they belong to.

The scoring system ranged from Poor, through Fair, Good and Very Good, to Excellent. The unanimous opinion garnered from all of the completed questionnaires was positive with all participants rating all aspects of the conference as Good or better in their recorded responses.

2. Overall Feedback from the Conference

2.1. Feedback for Each Aspect of the Conference

The below table details levels of satisfaction for each aspect of the conference, except for the products promoted specifically, which are detailed in the subsequent sections. The results are based on responses from 14 participants. Those participants who returned the second sheet on specific product and project satisfaction without returning their feedback score sheet have been discounted in this number.

	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
Speakers	4	8	2		
Organisation	5	9			
Programme	6	6	2		
Venue	4	8	2		
Document Pack	5	6	3		
Administration	6	6	2		
Overall	6	6	2		

As is evident from the results provided above, the general consensus is that the conference performed well on all aspects of planning and delivery. No aspects of the event were graded as Poor to Fair, with only a few rating several aspects of good; the majority of feedback rated the conference as either Very Good or Excellent.

2.2. How Did You Hear About the Conference

The participants were asked how they became aware of the event being held; this simple knowledge will prove valuable in assessing how successful various avenues of dissemination are when it comes to promoting new conferences and events.

The participants were given the option of choosing from e-mail invitation, LinkedIn invitation (social networking website), telephone invitation, word-of-mouth from a colleague, and "Other".

	Number of respondents
E-mail invitation	3
LinkedIn invitation	-
Telephone invitation	-
Word-of-mouth (colleagues)	7
Other	5

Reasons given under the "Other" category include being a member of the project consortium – 2 respondents - and learning of the conference online; the event was advertised on a number of partner websites. Two forms indicating "Other" listed a colleague as the medium of invitation.

The above results indicate that the majority of invitations were through word-of-mouth invitation from colleagues, and several attended after being invited by email. Though a small sample size, this suggests that dissemination of conference/event information can be improved through social networking websites such as LinkedIn, and concerted efforts should focus on exploring the relevant networking groups available on this platform.

3. Further Comments

3.1. Additional Comments Made by Participants

Aside from praising various aspects of the conference, there were a number of suggestions made by participants as to how to either improve on the event in future or for the projects/products. These were as follows:

- *It would be interesting to see some evaluations or research on the use of the products in terms of how they are accepted by teachers, students and seafarers.*
- *Question and answer segments should be held after the presentation of each product specifically, rather than as a whole at the end.*
- *The conference should become an annual event, with any new and updated products showcased at future events.*

Several other comments given pertained to the usefulness of the conference information on e-learning and within professional associations related to the maritime industry.

3.2. Industry Publications Targeted

Participants were asked to make note of any industry related publications either read or advertised in by themselves and the organisations to which they belong. The following publications were documented in the responses:

<i>Lloyds List</i>	<i>Maritime Times</i>	<i>Fairplay</i>
<i>88T</i>	<i>Nautilus</i>	<i>Tanker Manager</i>
<i>Digital Ship</i>	<i>Cesma News</i>	<i>Maritimt Forum</i>

These publications have been compiled and assimilated into the list of existing publishers that partners use to disseminate project press releases and articles. Their expressed interest at this conference increases the likelihood that they will publish future materials by this partnership consortium. A number of these publications were not already being targeted by media-related dissemination activities; thus, this will improve the dissemination of not only the IMPACT project, but all other projects associated with partners from this consortium.

3.3. Professional Associations Represented by Attendees

Participants were asked to document any professional associations that they belong to. The following associations were specifically documented in the responses:

Intermanager

Intertanko

Institute of Engineering and Technology

Spanish Yacht Masters Assembly

IFPSM (International Federation of Purchasing and Supply Management)

ZPU (Association representing seagoing Masters and Chief Engineers)

IMLA (International Maritime Lecturers Association)

ESSE (European Society for the Study of English)

(And all associations belonging or related to the partnership consortium).

4. Comments on the Products of the Platform

4.1. NetOSKAR

- *There should be a softer introduction for customers, with more exploration given at the beginning.*
- *Interesting for our use with Senior Officers (comment by ZPU, an association representing sea-going Masters and Chief Engineers).*
- *Interesting product; will try to use it.*

4.2. MarTEL

- *Useful for all seafarer skills.*
- *Already familiar with the product.*

4.3. Maider

- *Meets the good practice product criteria set out by the Maritime Training platform, which is a valuable resource.*

4.4. MEP

- *Meets the good practice product criteria set out by the Maritime Training platform, which is a valuable resource.*

4.5. eGMDSS

- *It is good to know that over 25,000 people have tried this. A certification could well complement the current EGMDSS.*
- *Already regularly using the product.*

4.6. MarEng

- *Very useful for all seafarers.*
- *Excellent facility with continuing improvements.*

4.7. Captains

- *Useful for Officers.*

4.8. Seagull Training System

- *Real professional facilities for larger (Solus) ship. What about the small craft and leisure boaters?*
- *Would like to have whole training library.*

4.9. ALEOPS

- *Nice conceptual framework of learning.*

4.10. Surpass

- *Useful for Officers and Senior Officers.*
- *The website provides facts about the project access and possible development of materials, and is of high interest.*

5. Conclusion and recommendation

As a means of dissemination for the IMPACT project and MaritimeTraining platform, the conference was a considerable success. The result of feedback given, as shown in the above sections, clearly indicates that the project/product has already been well received in the maritime industry, and will continue to grow in the future with the addition of further projects. There is a clear potential for there to be future installations of this conference in order to showcase new products added to the platform and any future developments of the platform itself.

Asking attendees to list industry publications with which they are related has produced a clear benefit for both this and other projects/products. It has expanded the list of publishers that each partner can contact with future project dissemination activities and press releases, and their interest in the IMPACT project/product essentially guarantees that these publishers will take an interest in future developments within the same area and on the MaritimeTraining platform.

Having so many representatives of professional associations at the conference has ensured the continued dissemination of the project/product., as all attendees continue to spread information through their own organisations, associations and networks. This will hopefully lead to an increase of the products submitted for consideration on the MaritimeTraining platform, and consequently increase the growth of the platform too.

All of the comments put forward on the feedback forms will be taken into consideration when considering future changes and developments to the MaritimeTraining platform, and if planning future IMPACT conferences.