

NAUTICAL INSTITUTE DIRECTOR LECTURES AT IMLI

Dr. Phil Anderson, Director and Immediate Past President of the Nautical Institute, was recently at IMLI to lecture on the ISM Code.



Dr. Phil Anderson lecturing on the ISM Code to IMLI Class 2006-2007

Dr. Anderson gave a general background on the ISM Code and the basic principles affecting its implementation. The ISM Code applies to almost every activity on board the ship and to every office procedure ashore.

He stressed that with respect to safe operations onboard and ashore it was important to know what to do to, to document what you do, to do what is stated in the document, and to audit what you do to see where fine-tuning is required. He summed this up in a three-fold mantra: (1) Say what you do; (2) Do what you say you do; and (3) Show that you do what you say you do. For the safety management system to work, it was equally important to train the person to properly implement the system and to encourage persons to follow the system.

He stated that the impact of the ISM Code has been less in law and more in the legal tests for “seaworthiness” and “due diligence”. In determining compliance in these two areas, courts will look at the way the ship owner manages safety onboard and refer to best practices taking place in the industry at the particular time to see if the benchmarks for these two areas have been met. He emphasized however that issues of liability would always turn upon the question of “causative unseaworthiness”.

The Nautical Institute is a professional organization of ship captains and other persons in charge on board ships. It has 70 branches in 40 different countries. Their aim is to promote professional excellence in seafaring.

** For further information please contact Ms. Josephine Uranza (Editor, IMLI e-News) at publications@imli.org*