

# FACTSHEET

## The importance of STEM subjects to maritime industry careers

The maritime industry particularly looks for applicants with STEM-related qualifications to enable recruits to keep up with the ever increasing technological advances, or to have a sound understanding of mathematics for the marine financial area. Representative examples are:-

### **a) Deck Officer**

Responsible for controlling navigation and communications using the latest technological systems, including satellite communication with ships, ports and offices worldwide. Technical and mathematical ability is important, together with good team working, communication skills and self-reliance.

### **b) Engineer Officer**

Operating and maintaining all the mechanical and electrical equipment throughout the ship – at sea, if equipment goes wrong you can't just pull in to the nearest garage! A real interest in mechanical, electrical and electronic systems is important, together with a willingness to learn about new technology and adapt skills to its use.

### **c) Marine Contracting**

Skills in engineering, science, IT or mathematics could provide the passport to opportunities such as constructing the next generation of offshore installations for the international oil and gas industry; working in a team operating technically advanced offshore construction, installation and support vessels or remotely operated vehicles; charting the sea and oceans; laying telecommunications cables; or playing a vital role as a life support technician to an offshore diving team.

### **Find out more**

Apprenticeships in the maritime industries (e.g. boat building) can be found via – [www.apprenticeships.org.uk](http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk)

## **Entry into Higher Education**

Specific higher education courses relating to the maritime sector include:-

- naval architecture
- maritime law
- oceanography
- environment and coastal management
- marine leisure management

## **More general degree courses include:-**

- nautical science
- maritime studies
- marine engineering
- marine technology and marine science

Foundation degrees are available through the Royal Navy and the Merchant Navy, and there are other maritime-related foundation degrees.



**The High Tide Foundation is a registered charity, created and driven by port-related businesses to provide opportunities for the young people of Teesside**

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