

BRIDGE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COURSE (5 DAYS)

COURSE FRAMEWORK



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1.0	INTRODUCTION.....	3
2.0	SCOPE.....	3
3.0	AIMS and OBJECTIVES.....	3
4.0	ENTRY STANDARDS.....	3
5.0	DURATION	4
6.0	LIMITATIONS.....	4
7.0	SPECIFIC STAFF REQUIREMENTS	4
7.1.	Staff 1	4
7.2.	Staff 2	4
8.0	TEACHING FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT	4
8.1.	Venues	4
8.2.	Course Equipment.....	5
8.3.	Visual Aids.....	5
8.4.	Textbooks, charts, materials, and other publications.....	5
9.0	AWARD.....	5
10.0	SPECIMEN CERTIFICATE CONTENT	6

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This course, of 5 days (35 hours) duration, provides training and guidance on the principles and practices of Bridge Resource Management (BRM) as required by U.S. 46 CFR 10.205 (o) and U.S. 33 CFR 157.415 as recommended by Section B-VIII/2 of the STCW 1995 Code. It also addresses certain topics and guidelines proposed by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), The Nautical Institute, the marine insurance industry, and other maritime organizations. The curriculum presented meets, and in many cases exceeds, the requirements established by federal regulation and the domestic implementation of STCW '95.

2.0 SCOPE

The course is designed to improve a participant's understanding and appreciation of the behavioral skills necessary to implement and sustain good BRM practices aboard their ships.

The principles of BRM are dealt with through a series of lessons, discussions, and case studies. A series of ship simulation exercises, conducted in a full-mission ship bridge simulator, provide trainees with the opportunity to practice and experience the application of the necessary management and teamwork behaviors. Each exercise is followed by a thorough de-brief and analysis designed to reinforce the learning process.

Whilst the regulations and principles of BRM apply universally, it is also recognized that the application of resources must be ship specific. Consequently a variety of practical ship simulation exercises are available in this course to meet specific areas of shipping, i.e. cruise ships, tug barges, off-shore vessels etc.

3.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim is to satisfy the minimum training requirements set forth in 46 CFR Part 10.205 (o) for persons desiring to serve in the capacity of Master or Officer-in Charge of a navigational watch. Overall, it is to significantly reduce the risk of human error induced navigation casualties.

A participant successfully completing this course will have demonstrated the ability to:

- Have an improved understanding and appreciation of the factors contributing to effective BRM.
- Apply BRM behavioral skills in the appraisal, planning, execution and monitoring of a navigational passage.

4.0 ENTRY STANDARDS

This course is open to masters, deck officers, pilots, cadets, and others who are involved in the organization and conduct of the navigation aboard a vessel.

All participants will be required to provide positive identification, possess and demonstrate appropriate written and verbal communication skills in the English language.

Assessment of the application of the principles of Bridge Resource Management is reviewed through course participation and assignment of behavioral tasks normally required of participating in a navigational watch. Consequently participants must have the professional and technical skills required to keep a safe navigational watch. Ideally, participants will already possess the following prior to attending this course:

1. A valid license or document issued by a Flag State party to the international treaty; STCW '95, certifying competency as forming part of a navigational watch.
2. A valid Merchant Mariners Document, MMD.

5.0 DURATION

Five days (35 hours)

6.0 LIMITATIONS

Maximum class size is five (5) participants. Participant Teacher Ratio 5:1.

Minimum class size is three (3) participants. Participant Teacher Ratio 3:1.

7.0 SPECIFIC STAFF REQUIREMENTS

7.1. Staff 1

The qualified BRM instructor will:

- Be proficient in the administration, delivery, and technical aspects relating to the learning objectives of the program.
- Have experience as Master (Unlimited) and have supported and practiced Bridge Resource Management prior to teaching it.
- Have successfully completed an International Maritime Organization (IMO) Train the Trainer (TTT) Program.
- Have U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) approval to teach BRM.
- In no case, hold a document of a lesser rating than the participants attending the class.

7.2. Staff 2

- A qualified Simulator Control Station Operator.

8.0 TEACHING FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

8.1. Venues

Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies (MITAGS)
692 Maritime Boulevard
Linthicum Heights, MD 21090.

Pacific Maritime Institute (PMI)
1729 Alaskan Way South
Seattle, WA 98134.

8.2. Course Equipment

Full Mission Bridge Simulators No. 1 or 2 having the capability of: video recording and playback of performance on the bridge; replaying of exercises; and hard copy of own and other ship tracks.

8.3. Visual Aids

- Power Point Slides to summarize and focus on lesson content of the Course Manual.
- Chalk/White Board to group solve/educate requirements of making a passage plan and other topics.
- VCR/DVD to play various training videos and DVD's and to playback video recordings of exercises for analysis at debriefing.
- Computer, with internet access, linked to LCD projector and screen to: present Power Point slides; view data on relevant websites and show relevant video clips.

8.4. Textbooks, charts, materials, and other publications.

- MITAGS BRM Course Manual.
- Bridge Team Management, by Swift, A.J., Captain MNI.
- International Chamber of Shipping Bridge Procedures Guide.
- Various shipping company Bridge Procedure Guides and check lists.
- Relevant British Admiralty and U.S. Defense Mapping Agency charts and publications.
- Selected relevant accident reports from various international marine accident investigation agencies.
- Relevant company internal accident investigation reports.
- Handouts of relevant articles from various professional and trade publications.

9.0 AWARD

Attendees successfully completing the course will be awarded a USCG Approved Certificate of Advanced Training for satisfactory completion of a 35 hours Bridge Resource Management Course issued by MITAGS. To successfully complete the course a participant must:

1. Attend a minimum of 33 course hours.
2. Participate in all the simulation exercises to the satisfaction of the instructor.

3. Complete the case study course work assignment to the satisfaction of the instructor.
4. Achieve a minimum grade of 80% on a practical passage planning exercise.
5. Achieve a minimum grade of 70% on the practical application of BRM behaviors in the simulation exercises.
6. Achieve a minimum grade of 80% on the final written examination.

10.0 SPECIMEN CERTIFICATE CONTENT

Certificate of Advanced Training --
35 Hour - Bridge Resource Management
This is to certify that

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has successfully completed a five-day course in Bridge Resource Management offered by the Maritime Advancement, Training, Education and Safety Program through the Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies and has demonstrated knowledge and skill in basic ship maneuvering, voyage planning, bridge management, and bridge team procedures on various vessels utilizing the Institute's full-mission simulator. This course satisfies the requirements of 46 CFR 10.205 (o) and the requirements of the Seafarer's Training, Certification and Watchkeeping Code (STCW-95), Section B-VIII/2, Part 3-1.

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