Appendix II: Concept & Methodology

CONCEPT

The course is developed to satisfy the needs of trainees incorporating a realistic view of language communication skills. Trainees are provided with a specific support to effectively communicate in English during Port and Flag State inspections.

The concept that underpins the specific requirements of this English course for ships' inspectors is that trainees need to be competent in using English for professional purposes during an inspection on board.

The course is structured on a standard level which includes items of English structures belonging to the traditional broad range of English levels from elementary to intermediate.

In order to best benefit from this course, trainees are required to know at least few phrases of English and to be able to string together basic questions and sentences using a narrow range of English.

METHODOLOGY

The methodology of this course is based on the communicative skills needed during ship's inspections. In this respect, the course has been developed following the steps of a simulated Flag/PSC inspection which starts with the ship's boarding, continuing in the Master's cabin with the usual checks of certificates and documents, going on with the overall condition of the ship, inspecting the deck, bridge, the engine-room etc.

The course aims at developing an interactive approach with the trainees, each section starts with episodes corresponding to the various scenarios of the inspection carried out by Inspectors Mr Brown and Mr White (possibly with short comics video-clips). For each episode some tests will ensure the comprehension of the dialogues in terms of "vocabulary", "maritime focus" and "pronunciation".

The methodology followed to develop the scenarios aims at stimulating curiosity about the next steps of the inspection carried out by Mr Brown and Mr White getting close to the suspense driven narrative techniques of TV series. Every scenario has a cliff-hanger ending which brings trainees back to the next scenario.