## >>> SEA MENTORS NEWSLETTER, JANUARY 2024



#### >>> PARTNERS:

- Romanian Naval Academy 'Mircea cel Batran' (RNA)
- Naval Academy "Heroes of Westerplatte" (PNA)
- Lithuanian Maritime Academy (LMA)
- Bulgarian Naval Academy "Nikola Y. Vaptsarov" (NVNA)
- Spinaker
- Maritime Innovators

#### >>> PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The main focus of the project is to develop a vocational guidance platform for seafarers of work at sea and on shore. The partners, with the help of maritime professionals, shared their experiences that would be useful for those who would join the SEAMENTORS platform, by providing guidance and mentoring to seafarers in order to facilitate their entry into professional life at sea and on board ships.

As part of the project, LMA have taken the initiative to bring together shipping companies, professional seafarers and students for joint meetings, exchanging success stories, valuable information and engaging discussions.

### >>> 11 OCTOBER 2023

Meeting with representatives of Company REEDEREI NORD GMBH and 2nd and 3rd year students of Marine Navigation, Marine Engineering programmes.





Reederei NORD is a family owned, ship owner and manager, with over 50 years of experience in vessel trading and operation.

Founded in 1964 by Klaus E. Oldendorff, NORD is still wholly family owned with a fleet of 35 controlled vessels.

COMPANY'S

AVAILABLE
CADET
POSITIONS 2024

NO. OF SUCCESS
OF THE CADET

35

101

PROGRAM 202.

77

### >>> 7 NOVEMBER 2023

Meeting with representatives of Company MARLOW NAVIGATION and 4th year students of Marine Engineering programme.





Today, MARLOW NAVIGATIONS network of fully controlled offices spanning across 14 countries, with over 1,150 shore-based staff and 25,000 active seafarers, underpin the company's success story, business sustainability, and client-focused ethos.

VESSELS UNDER TRAINING
PROGRAMMES
IN 2022

SEAFARER
RETENTION RATES
ONBOARD (%) 202

1076

783

82

### >>> 29 NOVEMBER 2023

LMA facilitated a virtual meeting with students aspiring to become future seafarers. The participants included not only LMA students but also all partners involved in the SEAMENTORS project, along with invited cadets. Accomplished seafaring professionals were invited to share their extensive work experiences and respond to inquiries from the students.







# >>> 20 DECEMBER 2023

Mrs. V. Locaitienė, a lecturer at LMA and a project participant, showcased the platform to members of the Lithuanian Shipmasters Association, extending an invitation for their involvement in a mentoring program. Esteemed captains expressed enthusiasm for the initiative, recognizing the opportunity to contribute as members of the seasoned maritime community by sharing their valuable experiences, insights, and advice with the younger generation.





# >>> What is mentoring?

# >>> How is it important for cadets starting their seafaring journey?



**Gintautas Kutka** *Executive director of the Lithuanian Shipowners' Association* 

"It is important for young people, including cadets, to have mentors whose experience would enable them to achieve professional knowledge faster. From the beginning of their careers, young people need to project their lives both at sea and later on shore. Mentors can be very helpful in this planning phase. Sometimes we joke that young people often think they will live forever and always be healthy. Therefore, the life experience of mentors allows young people to look at situations from a different angle."

"Lithuania is rightly proud to be a maritime nation. Lithuanians can unequivocally call themselves a maritime nation. But not everyone understands the sea and the maritime profession. The sea from the shore looks completely different from the sea as a whole. Unfortunately, textbooks cannot explain such subtleties. Only professional seafarers are able to understand the character of the sea and can almost always find a common language with the sea. Mentoring and sharing of professional experience is therefore of great importance in shaping the real psychological state of a young seafarer."



Vaclav Stankevič

Director of LMA, Master



Alvydas Nikolajus
Ch. Engineer/ the mentor of
Project SEAMENTORS

"I think that a mentor should not only be an expert in his field, but also a full-fledged personality. That's what I try to be. I read a lot, travel, participate in many trainings, take care of my family, take care of my own and stray dogs... I try to be a role model..."

"Mentoring is offering guidance and wisdom based on one's own experiences to assist the mentee in their growth and development. It involves actively listening to the mentee's concerns, providing constructive feedback, and serving as a role model to inspire and nurture their potential. A successful mentor strives to empower and positively influence the mentee's journey toward achieving their goals."



Artūras Mogenis

Chief mate/ the mentor of

Project SEAMENTORS