

Lessons learned from IMO Polar Waters workshops



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SEAFARERS TRAINING FOR POLAR WATERS OPERATIONS

chapter 12 of Polar Code, on manning and training, provides that companies must ensure masters, chief mates and officers in charge of a navigational watch on board ships operating in polar waters have completed appropriate training, taking into account the provisions of the **STCW Convention and its related STCW Code**.

chapter V of the STCW Convention (1 July 2018)

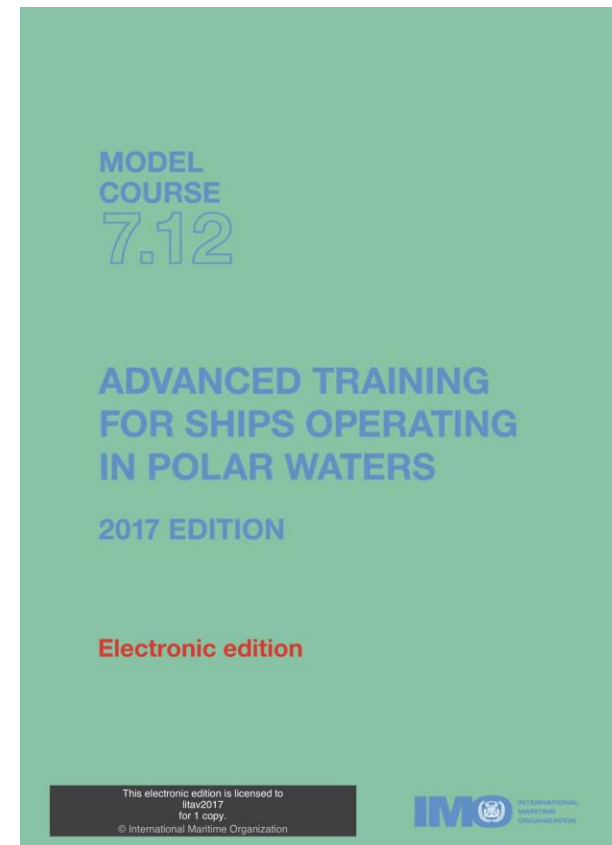
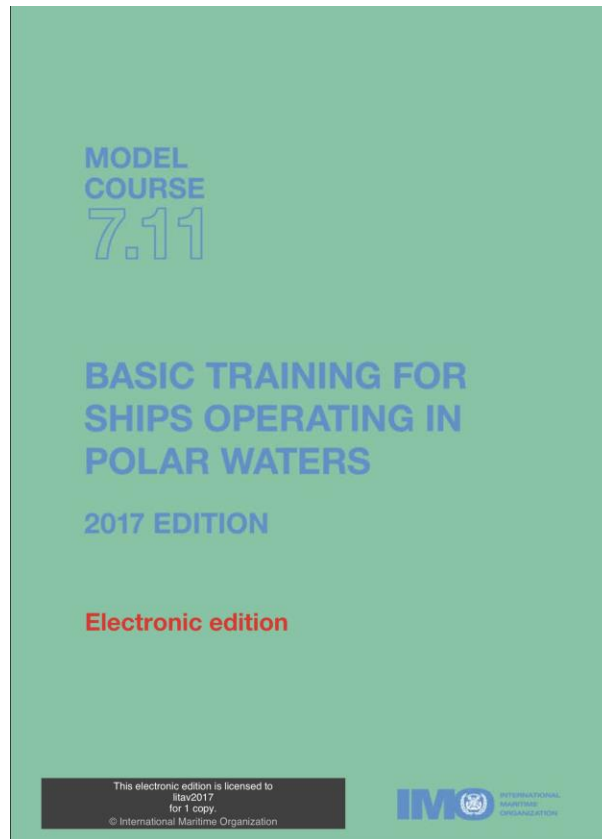
The mandatory minimum requirements for the training and qualifications of masters and deck officers on ships operating in polar waters



Well-trained seafarers are essential for safe navigation in polar waters

IMO MODEL COURSES FOR SHIPS OPERATING IN POLAR WATERS

IMO developed two new model courses to support maritime training institutions in organizing and developing competence-based training programmes and updating existing programmes. (2017)



IMO/CANADA TRAINING FOR SEAFARERS OPERATING IN POLAR WATERS PROJECT

IMO and Transport Canada under a Memorandum of Understanding organized and delivered five (5) regional capacity-building workshops to provide training for trainers to deliver training programmes for seafarers operating in Polar waters and on the implementation of the Polar Code.

The regional **train-the-trainer workshops aim** was to assist maritime training institutes in enhancing the skills and competence of maritime instructors to develop competence-based training programmes, update existing programmes and improve the delivery of specific IMO model courses (**Basic and Advanced training for ships operating in Polar waters**).

Under the project, five (5) regional capacity-building workshops were delivered:

- Canada (September 2019)
- Chile (November 2019)
- Republic of Korea (November 2021)
- Russian Federation (December 2021)
- Türkiye (September 2022)

IMO/CANADA TRAINING FOR SEAFARERS OPERATING IN POLAR WATERS PROJECT

Canada - Regional train-the-trainer workshop for seafarers on ships operating in polar waters, 9 to 13 September 2019, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada

- **11 participants from 7 countries:** Canada, Bahamas, Chile, Denmark, Iceland, India, and Jamaica



Chile - Regional train-the-trainer workshop for seafarers on ships operating in polar waters, 18 to 22 November 2019, Valparaiso, Chile

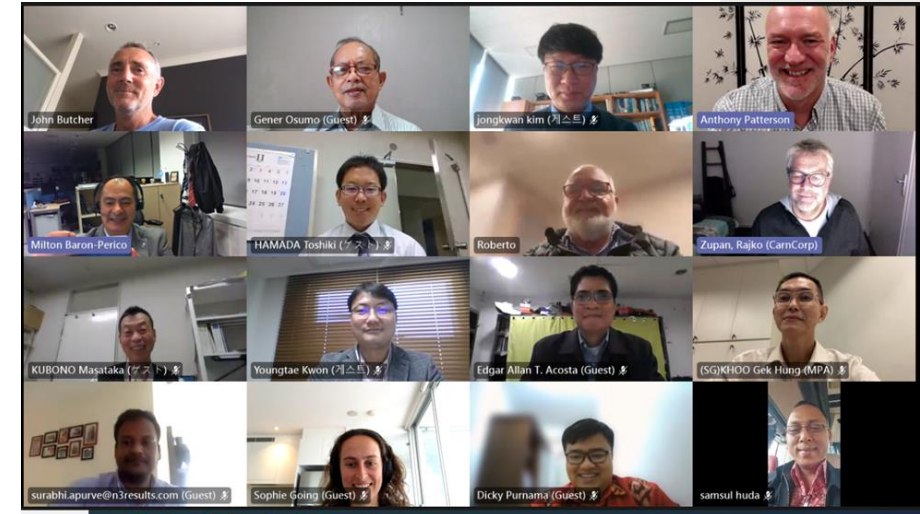
- **19 participants from 8 countries:** Argentina, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, México, Panamá, and Perú



IMO/CANADA TRAINING FOR SEAFARERS OPERATING IN POLAR WATERS PROJECT

eLearning/virtual regional train-the-trainer workshop for seafarers on ships operating in polar waters, held remotely from 22 to 26 November 2021, in the region coordinated by the Republic of Korea.

- **17 participants from 6 countries:** Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, and Singapore



eLearning/virtual regional train-the-trainer workshop for seafarers on ships operating in polar waters, to be held remotely from 06 to 10 December 2021, in the region coordinated by the Russian Federation.

- **11 participants from 5 countries:** France, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, and Sweden



IMO/CANADA TRAINING FOR SEAFARERS OPERATING IN POLAR WATERS PROJECT

hybrid eLearning and in-person regional train-the-trainer workshop for seafarers on ships operating in Polar Waters, to be held remotely from 28 to 30 September and in-person from 3 to 5 October 2022, Izmir, Türkiye

- **29 participants from 12 countries:** Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Georgia, Latvia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Romania, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Türkiye, and Vietnam



Digital innovation – education and training



IMO has developed a number of e-Learning courses with the purpose of increasing the capacity of Member States to effectively implement IMO instruments. Some courses are also available to anyone interested in maritime issues wishing to enhance their maritime knowledge.

e-Learning courses

- Polar Code Instructor Training
- An Introduction to Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation
- IMO Member State Audit Scheme course
- IMO-RoK GHG SMART Training Programme

Lesson 1 - Wide Variety of Participants

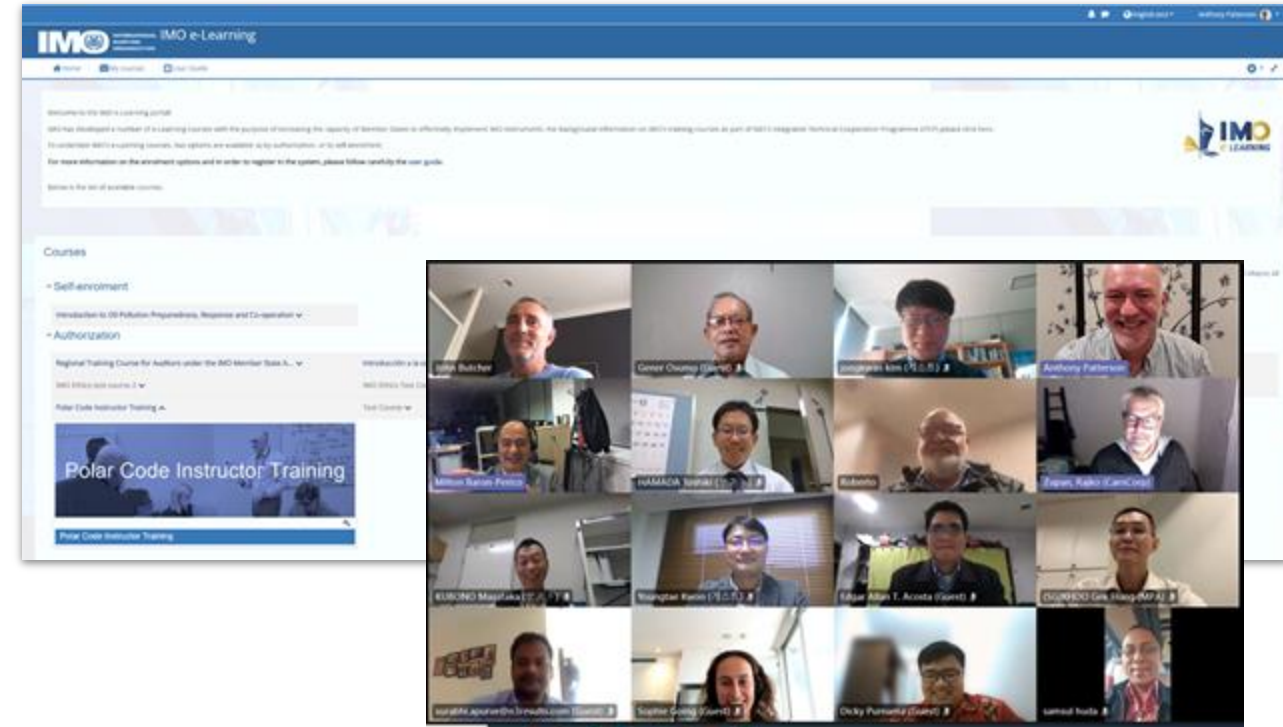
- training material was developed for instructors with sufficient Polar experience to qualify as an instructor for training at the Advanced level
- participants attended the workshops, many of whom had no Polar nor ice operations experience at all
- Some participants were from Flag Administration and training institutions whose role was mainly in the approval of programs rather than the delivery of training
- challenges facing by the consultants to ensure everyone received a positive learning experience



Türkiye, Workshop Consulting Team

Lesson 2 - Virtual and Hybrid Workshops

- The COVID-19 Pandemic required that an alternate approach be used to continue delivering the workshops
- The original workshop was adjusted as follows:
 - On-line self-paced lecture modules using the IMO Moodle™ LMS
 - Video Conference for group discussions using MS Teams
 - Quick-Start Guides, On-line Examples, and Video Conferencing for practical exercises
 - Video Conferencing for simulator demonstrations
- The Hybrid Workshop used in-person sessions for the practical exercises
- The Virtual and Hybrid Workshops were well received by the participants and enabled more people to participate

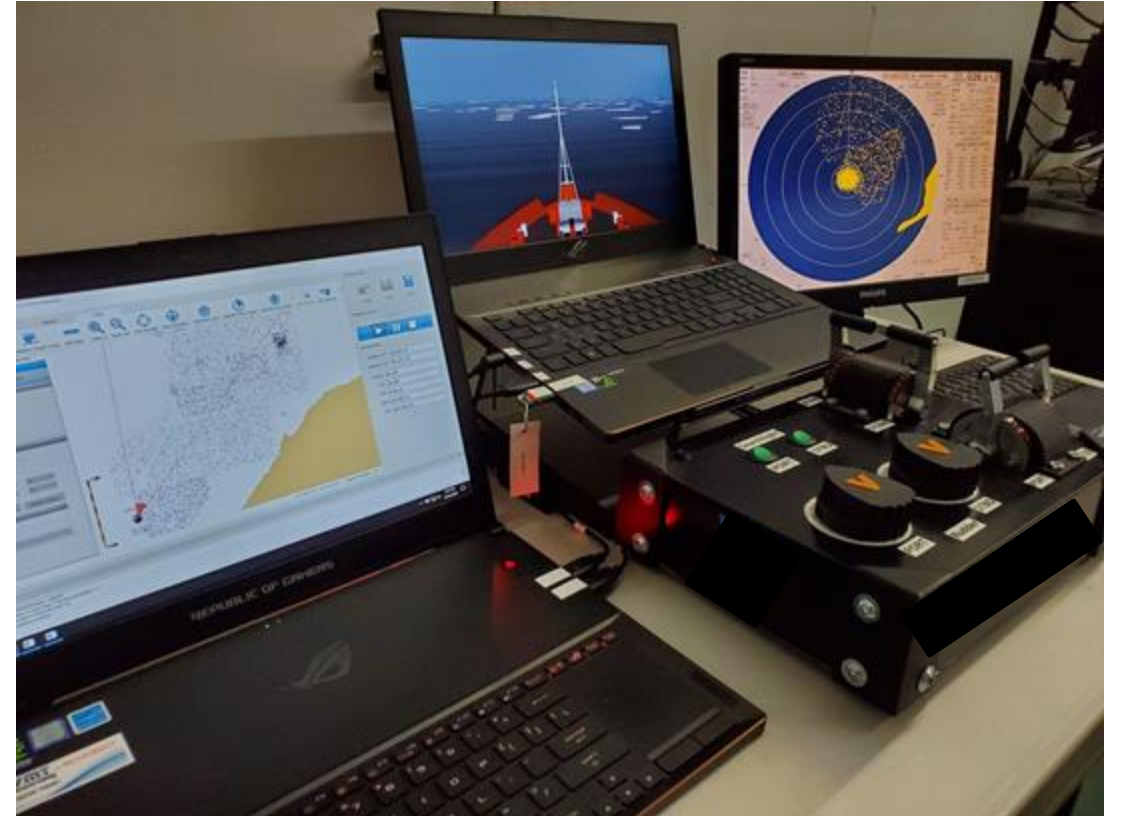


Thanks for the opportunity. Was a fantastic course with some good information that I will definitely use.

Korean eWorkshop Participant

Lesson 3 - Importance of Simulation

- the use of simulation was essential to help them visualize the unique challenges of Polar Operations and to better understand the requirements of the Polar Code
- participants were exposed to the full range of ice simulation available (including highly portable 'desktop' simulators that specialize in ice operations)
- simulation scenarios created that could be used by training schools.
- the scenarios included operations in the Northwest Passage, Northern Sea Route and the Antarctic



Participants were exposed to a full range of simulators including a desktop ice simulator developed in Canada and used by the Canadian Coast Guard

Lesson 4 - Practical Training for Instructors

- the workshop was to develop and test practical exercises that could be used in the classroom
- participants were split into working groups and tasked to develop four (4) practical exercises
- practical exercises included:
 - Table-Top Exercise - Using Regional Regulations at the Basic Level
 - Table-Top Exercise - Passage Planning at the Advanced Level
 - Simulation Exercise - Ice Navigation at the Basic Level
 - Simulation Exercise - Ice Navigation at the Advanced Level
- creation of practical exercises in small working groups very valuable



Participants in the Türkiye Workshop testing a Basic Ice Navigation scenario that they had developed during the workshop.

Thoughts for the Future

- need to ensure Polar Code instructors have proper training.
- eWorkshop and Hybrid Workshop formats enable many instructors to participate in a cost effective manner.
- need for training shore-based personnel who are administering compliance with the Polar Code (shipping companies, Administrations and ships operators)
- creation of a short orientation program that includes the use of simulation



<https://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/HotTopics/Pages/Polar-default.aspx>

Thank you