

WORLD MARITIME SEAFARER PROFILES



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JOB TITLE: **SHIP CAPTAIN**

Why is timely crew change important?

Not knowing when you will see your family again is destructive to your life balance and mental health. And eventually, that might stop seafarers from sailing. If seafarers stop sailing, then there will be not more shipping. So, there are very good reasons to have timely crew change.

Can you describe your ideal onboard working environment?

My ideal working environment is open and relaxed, where there is a good atmosphere, and you can talk freely about work and personal matters without any worries. Where it doesn't really matter where you come from, what your religion or sexuality is, but what matters is that you are doing a good job and you're a good colleague. In my experience, if there's a lot of nationalities on board, young and old, there's a good chance that there will also be a good atmosphere.

IMO's theme is seafarers at the core of shipping's future. What challenges do you see ahead?

One of our big challenges is to show how important we are. Without seafarers, there is no shipping. And without shipping, there is no shopping. In order to make society realize that, we need to be visible. Another big challenge is to attract young people to the maritime industry. If we cannot offer them fair conditions, then they will find a better future elsewhere -and then there's no future for shipping.

Why is training important and can you talk about what type of training you found most effective?

Training is important to prepare you for the real thing and to develop and expand your knowledge. To me, a mix of theory and practice gives the best result. Or you can even take the role of a teacher and teach others. And that way you will learn better yourself.

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