SEAHORSE Project received the RINA-LR Maritime Safety Award 2016

The SEAHORSE project consortium has received the prestigious RINA-LR Maritime Safety Award, which was presented at the Royal Institution of Naval Architects’ (RINA, UK) annual dinner on 27th of April 2017. The award was presented by Tom Broadley, the EVP of Lloyds Register & the President of the Institution of Naval Architects and Joanna Pohorski, UK & Ireland Area Manager at Lloyd’s Register.

The SEAHORSE project, of which TCD is a consortium member, was an EU funded maritime safety project, focusing on human factors and organisational issues. The project was completed in November 2016 and used Resilience Engineering principles to transfer best practice methodologies from the aviation transport sector to maritime transport in an effective, collaborative and innovative manner.

Dr. Paul Liston, of the Centre for Innovative Human Systems (CIHS) was the Principal Investigator for TCD, developed a systemic and systematic methodology for transferring learning and innovation across sectors.

The SEAHORSE methodologies and tools, which are freely available to shipping companies and maritime education establishments are being implemented and utilised by a number of shipping companies on ships ranging from ferries, container ships, offshore heavy lifting vessels, LNG, oil, chemical tankers and bulk carriers.
The success of the SEAHORSE project is built on a multi-disciplinary consortium and the continuous support of the companies from both aviation and maritime sectors who are involved in the project as Industrial Advisory Board members.

The SEAHORSE Consortium was coordinated by the University of Strathclyde and involves three Ship Operators (Caledonian MacBrayne Ferries, KAHN SHIPPING and DANAOS Shipping), four universities (University of Strathclyde, Satakunta University of Applied Sciences, Istanbul Technical University and Trinity College Dublin), a Crew Agency (AP&A ltd), a classification society (Lloyd’s Register EMEA), an aviation consultancy company (Deep Blue), two training companies (ESM and KRATIS) and a research organisation (TNO).

A Number of Aviation and Shipping companies, as Industrial Advisory Board members, supported the project over 3 years period by attending the workshops providing feedback, data as well as operational realities in both aviation and shipping sector. Amongst these companies, AIRBUS’s support has been instrumental to gain insight in practical human factors issues and aviation’s approach. Hellenic Tankers provided constant feedback on the methodologies and operational realities in shipping sector. Notable support from MISC Group in the form of feedback during workshops and more importantly implementing several of SEAHORSE methodologies and tools on MISC’s fleet provided a significant step for validation. Similarly, A.E.Nomikos Shipping’s contribution was substantial as they implemented SEAHORSE methodologies on board of their bulk carriers.

The SEAHORSE project has created significant awareness within the maritime community that safety can be enhanced by adopting new safety approaches. It is expected that, wider utilisation of SEAHORSE tools and methodologies will support IMO’s human element activities significantly while assisting the human centred design and operation of ships.