

DNV starts up 3D virtual training center

Two openings, three dimensions

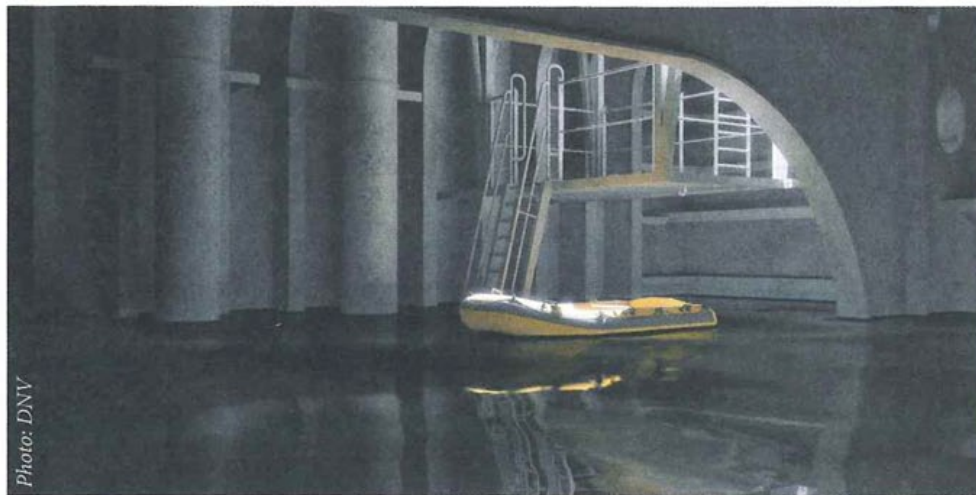


Photo: DNV

After two and a half years of software development, DNV Poland has launched the industry's first interactive 3D survey simulator, specifically designed to improve and accelerate training of DNV surveyors. This revolutionary training solution will also contribute to practical training offered externally.

A celebration that gathered a sizeable portion of Poland's maritime industry's top managerial staff and ship technology specialists on May 7th, 2010 in the new premises of Det Norske Veritas Poland, related to real building and virtual ships helping to improve safety of the real ones.

First of all a virtual ribbon was cut by Enok Nygaard, the Norwegian Ambassador in Poland, to celebrate the grand opening of the first DNV Virtual Reality Training Center – a unique place that has no equivalent in the market.

The main purpose of creating the Virtual Reality Training Center was to work out a concept of a simulator prototype for educating marine technical inspectors using three-dimensional models and visualization in stereoscopy technology (3D impression). The project was supported by the EU Innovation Fund as technology of the future. The establishment of the Virtual Reality Training Center was largely possible owing to the availability of young, skilled and highly educated engineers, especially naval architects and IT specialists in Poland.

The Survey Simulator (SuSi) is a solution for everyday use for professionals who need to know everything about the vessel before they come on board. Inspections and technical assessments require a long and thorough training

process in order to prepare new inspectors for the variety of conditions they could possibly work in. Such a learning process may last years. Practical onboard training is dependent on access to vessels of a certain type or particular moments of the vessel's life phase. Additionally, experienced tutors are not always available. It is assumed that the time needed to prepare new surveyors, superintendents and inspectors for unaided work can be shortened from an average of five years to even one. This is a revolution. Attractive and unique – insists DNV.

DNV Academy is a modern training center of 400 m², located in Gdynia, in Poland's first

“Green Building” outside of Warsaw, built to comply with voluntary standards recommended by the European Union's GreenBuilding Programme.

Apart from training maritime professionals, DNV Academy offers conference room rental. As a 3D rooms' provider, DNV Academy Gdynia is the only competitor to local cinemas. DNV Academy provides first class training premises equipped with highly professional appliances destined for trainings in stereoscopy.

The building in which virtual reality ship models are worked out and used as training ranges for surveyors and other specialists is 100% real, but it is so modern and “smart” that it almost seems unreal.

Built to comply with voluntary standards recommended by the European Union's GreenBuilding Programme, DNV Poland's expansive new offices in Gdynia officially opened on the same day – along with its DNV Academy. The building is about 4,500 m² and has facilities to manage training programmes.

Henrik Bach, Area Manager for Sweden and Poland says that the decision to invest in the green technologies that make the building energy efficient was driven by a number of issues. “As an organisation devoted to managing environmental risk, we have to demonstrate our commitment to reducing the environmental impact of our own operations,” he says. “In addition to helping us cut costs over the long-term, this building sends a strong message about our institutional commitment to this issue to both existing and potential customers.”

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Photo: DNV