

Newsletter

Forword

Dear members and associated members,

At this moment still every country is dealing with the COVID 19 crisis, but fortunately in a lot of countries IWT education has started again in one way or another. During our online members meeting in May the huge impact of this crisis on our education and training became very clear.

It was good to see so many (associated) members online and to hear how everybody is dealing with this crisis. The contributions of Jörg Rusche (CESNI) and Jan Smallegange (COMPETING) during our meeting were highly appreciated. Our Dutch national soccer hero Johan Cruyff once said: “Every disadvantage has its advantages“. That is one way of looking at it.

Due to the Covid 19 crisis we could spend a little more attention to some deliverables within the COMPETING project and CESNI QP QM. It is very good to see that there is a lot of progress within both projects! This is important, because we can see that the implementation date of the EU directive 2397/2017 is rapidly approaching. Also important steps are being made by various institutes in building new IWT simulator centers or to update their old ones. This is a big step towards modern competence based, reliable and valid examination of IWT crew members.

Summer is starting soon and I hope that everyone will enjoy a well-deserved holiday; after these turbulent times, everyone can use some rest. Hopefully everything will be back to (fairly) normal after the summer break. It would be good if we could open wide the doors to our institutes and we can start teaching again without restrictive measures.

Kind regards,

Arjen Mintjes, chairman of the EDINNA board



EDINNA meets its members online

On May 27th, an online EDINNA meeting took place, which was conducted from Harlingen. The entire board was virtually present, consisting of Mr. H.A.L. Mintjes (president), Mr. K. Paulus (vice-president), Mr. O.S. Cupsa (vice-president), Mr. G. Benga (advisory officer) and Mr. H. Bergsma (treasurer). There were 36 participants from more than 11 countries including the Congo, Ukraine, Russia, United Kingdom, Romania etc.

Usually once a year all members come together for a General Assembly (GA), but unfortunately, due to the outbreak of the Coronavirus, the meeting was unable to proceed. This year the meeting would have taken place in Varna, Bulgaria, but an online meeting was planned instead. During this meeting we wanted to hear how our members are coping with the current situation regard to the COVID 19 crisis. We were hoping everyone was willing to share their experiences; and they did!

The question was how did members and their educational institutions organized themselves, what restrictive measures and procedures were adopted and especially how are theoretical and practical training and courses being conducted?

Mr. Ovidiu Cupsa, vice-president of the EDINNA board from Romanian started off the discussion. A lot of members from the different countries explained their current situations and the conclusion is that all countries are using online platforms for distance learning. Online learning can be used for the theoretical subjects, but when it comes to learning the practical skills then e-learning will of course not suffice. The exchange of interns between the ships in the different countries, for example, still proves to be quite a challenge. Fortunately, a cautious start is being made everywhere with taking up the practical lessons and the professional exams. Schools are opening up and students can, in small groups, attend lessons again. Of course, taking into account the safety measures, like wearing a facemask, gloves and glasses.

The overall conclusion was that all countries use distance learning for the theoretical subjects and online platforms are being deployed everywhere. Problems mainly arise when it comes to practical education. The exchange of interns between the ships in the different countries, for example, still proves to be quite a challenge.

Sharing experiences can help us find a possible common methodology or any other means to be more efficient. Especially now it is very important being united in our efforts. Sharing best practices may also support any institution, whether or not they are members of our EDINNA network, especially those most in need.

Model examination

During the online meeting in May 27th Mr. Jörg Rusche from the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) gave an enlightening explanation on model examination and the use of simulators. All participants of the online meeting received drafts to accompany the presentation of Mr. Rusche. Hopefully members will take a close look at those documents, because it is very important to collect feedback from the institutions who have to work with them. Applying model examination in every country will eventually contribute to the harmonization of education in inland navigation; something that EDINNA stands for. There was time to discuss on the subject and some members took the opportunity to comment on the subject. We suppose that there are still a lot of questions and the documents on model examination are still under construction. For more information every member can go to the CENSI website: www.cesni.eu, where much more documentation can be found.



Simulator

CESNI celebrates its fifth anniversary

CESNI is celebrating its five years anniversary. There were plans for a gathering in Strasbourg this year. The idea was to invite two students from every country to Strasbourg and let them attend the CENSI meeting on November 5th. The students would then have the opportunity to see how such a meeting is conducted. There would be time for discussion and questions. But due to all the travelling restrictions a visit is not likely to happen. The proposal is now to postpone the visit to the spring of 2021. In that case members will have time to consider the options and there is enough time for preparations. We will of course keep you posted on this!



EDINNA has its own Facebookpage!

Yes, finally! EDINNA has its own Facebookpage. Please like and share our messages and keep up to date with the latest EDINNA news or post something on our page that is interesting for our followers.



COMPETING at a glance

Mr. Jan Smallegange from the STC-Group Rotterdam in the Netherlands also attended the Online EDINNA meeting in May and gave a short presentation on the development within the COMPETING project. The aim of the project is to develop and harmonize competence-based education and training for inland shipping and to contribute to increasing labor mobility in the inland shipping sector.

On the COMPETING project a handy factsheet is now available. You can download the factsheet [here!](#)

