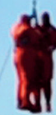




Project Kick-Off

SARINOR WP7

“TRAINING, STUDIES & COMPETENCE DEVELOPMENT FOR SAR-OPERATIONS IN THE HIGH NORTH”



What if there is an emergency in the Arctic Sea?

The specific context of the High North calls for high competence and combined efforts among several emergency organizations within the Search and rescue (SAR) professional network and requires SAR personnel working efficiently at all levels. A broad range of companies and institutions are involved in SAR operations including private and government, civilian and military, and volunteer and professional institutions.

How to prepare for the incident?

Experiences from real incidents and exercises show that there is a need for more focus on competence accumulation and exchange between sectors including common standards, tailor-made training, and exercise schemes for the personnel involved in a SAR operation. This is especially the case in large-scale incidents involving mass rescue operations (MRO) where combined efforts and close cooperation across companies, institutions and across borders are needed. Also, there is a need for more knowledge exchange and common programs for education, training and exercises.



Sarinor WP7 is the seventh work package of the SARiNOR Project on Search and Rescue in the High North. Considering the importance for international cooperation for best possible preparation for Search and Rescue Operations also the Sarinor WP7 team is international. Universities and Research Institutes from Norway, Russia and Canada will provide a detailed analysis defining the gaps and recommending actions for training, studies- and competence development for SAR-Operations in the High North. Several steps that have been refined during the Kick-Off phase in early 2016 will contribute to the success of Sarinor WP7:

1. Defining the problem

This project will fulfill the demands of the SARiNOR Project owner where the main goal for Sarinor WP7 is to identify and recommend how education, training and exercises can contribute to the development of efficient planning, execution and evaluation of SAR operations in the High North.

The purpose of the project is to contribute to an increased understanding of the capabilities and competences needed in different phases of SAR operations, and to contribute to innovations in the education, training and exercise of key personnel within companies and institutions. Sarinor WP7 will evaluate the identified gaps and recommendations from previous SARiNOR work-packages. Emphasis will be on cross-institutional and cross-border programs tailor-made for the Arctic environment.

2. The range of SAR-education

The great diversity of different involved stakeholders during an SAR-operations requires specialized key personnel within the whole cooperation chain from the moment where an emergency appears, to when every second matters and decisions need to be taken quickly. However also a good preparation and emergency prevention as well as substantial analysis after an SAR-operation are crucial. Tasks include coordination of the operation, coordination of sub-teams and a broad potential for operational tasks such as rescuing, medical assistance, piloting etc. .

As a result, the preparation for the case of emergency depending on the responsibility and task can include one or several of the bellow locations for competence development:

- Educational institutes (universities etc.)
- Training institutes
- SAR Institutions with own training facilities
- Competence building of private companies or industries
- Simulator centers
- Table Top Exercises
- Field Exercises
- Etc.

3. Approach of the project

The Project Partners of Sarinor WP7 will contribute during different phases of the project. Cooperation with the most important

SAR-institutions from the Arctic States (Rescue Coordination Centers, Coast Guards, Police, Fire Brigade, etc.), with the most relevant industries (Cruise ship industry, Oil and gas industry, Marine insurance company Hull Club, Ship owners, Fishing industry, etc.) and international education and training facilities (Norway, Canada, Russia, Denmark, USA) is planned.

The different phases of the project will include:

- Analysis of current international and national standards for SAR and SAR-training
- Mapping current offer on trainings, study programs and simulator platforms
- Interview meetings with representatives of SAR key stakeholders (institutions and industry)
- Observation studies of past SAR incidents
- Implementation and analysis of table top- and large scale exercises to test exercise concepts
- Dissemination of results

SAR-operations and education – WHO SETS THE RELEVANT STANDARDS?

A set of standards and guidance papers from different organizations ensures that preparedness for SAR-operations and SAR-education is kept at high levels all across institutions, industries and the borders of the Arctic countries.

The International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watch-keeping for Seafarers (STCW Convention) sets the basis when it comes to key personnel operating at sea. Furthermore on 1st January 2017 Polar shipping activities will be subject to the International code of safety for ships operating in polar waters (Polar Code) providing additional requirements for marine vessel operations in Polar waters.

However for Arctic Seafaring and especially Arctic-SAR a multitude of standards may be relevant:

- International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue (SAR)
- International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel (STCW-F)
- International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)
- ISO-Standards (especially ISO/TC 8)
- Guidance Papers of the International Maritime and Rescue Federation (IMRF Guidance Papers)
- ASTM-Standards
- SAR Agreements under the Arctic Council
- Bilateral Agreements between Arctic states
- Incident Command System standards (ICS)
- Industry internal SAR-standards (eg. Oil and Gas, Cruise Industry, etc.)

4. The Project Team

Nord University is responsible for the project. Nord University has developed joint research cooperation with universities in the High North since 1991.

All partners involved are actively contributing as research partners and via expertise and existing partnership networks.

The partner group includes the following institutions:

- NORD University – Lead Partner; www.nord.no
- MARINTEK; www.sintef.no/marintek/
- GMC-University of Stavanger; <http://www.gmc.no/> and www.uis.no/
- Memorial University of Newfoundland; www.mun.ca/
- Admiral Makarov State University of Maritime and Inland Shipping; gumrf.ru/en/

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