

Yacht Crew Experience and Competence

Paul Hailwood

Yachtsman Qualifications

- Certificate of Competency for Deck and Engineer Officers
- Yacht Rating qualifications
- Established training programmes
- Dedicated training centres
- Accredited by Flag States
- Certificates restricted to "Yachts"

Commercial Qualifications

- Certificate of Competency for Deck and Engineer Officers
- Established training programmes
- Dedicated training centres
- Accredited by Flag States
- Certificates unrestricted

Yacht Certificate Restrictions

- Master limited to 3000grt
- Chief Engineer limited
- Significant number of yachts exceed these limits
- Commercial certificates are required for the larger yachts – over 3000grt

Commercial experience

- Ship handling?
- Guest logistics and relations?
- Owner relations?
- Managing running costs?
- Engineering or electronics?
- Commercial experience may not be enough to manage a modern yacht

Yachtsman experience

- Yacht service not sea service
- Rapid promotion prospects
- Limited exposure to legal matters
- Lack of an established apprenticeship
- Limited professional development
- Today's professional yachtsmen can be lacking in practical sea experience

Owner's requirements

- High standard of personal service
- Ability to arrange anything at any time from helicopters to flowers
- Dedication to the owner and family – hours of rest?
- Manage assets
- Trust and reliance!!!

Legal requirements

- Safe Manning
- Certificates of Competency
- Minimum number of crew
- Owner is responsible to ensure relevant experience for all crew
- Who is the yacht owner?

Dilemma

- Owner requires yacht experienced officers
- These may not have the required Certificate of Competency
- Legal requirements for Certificate of Competency
- These may not satisfy the owner

Solution!!

- Limit all yachts to 3000grt ?
- No, current trend is to build bigger
- Remove yacht limitations?
- No, yacht service is not sea service

Solution!!

- Yacht training for commercial officers?
- Shipping industry already a facing a shortage of skilled officers
- Integrate the yachting industry into main stream Merchant Navy career path?
- Check your insurance is in order!!!!