

ABSTRACT

This thesis studies the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on the evolution of the digitalization of ships, and on the change of mindset in regards to the importance of providing satisfactory internet access on board. All the recent information sources available were used to understand the change in motivations behind the digital transformation of ships and the resulting trends. This study shows that the Pandemic has globally accelerated the digital transformation of ships, forcing the implementation of new practices. It also highlighted the usefulness of digital technologies to face the crisis in the maritime industry. The trend shows an increasing integration of the ship in a transparent logistics chain, where the analysis and the sharing of data of the ship is predominant. The empathy for the seafarers, who have been greatly affected by the consequences of the Pandemic, has been met by the support of Companies for the welfare of seafarers, of which internet access is a part. It concludes that globally, the pandemic has accelerated the digital transition of ships and initiated a change in mentality.