

SMCP are an important communication tool at sea, but have not been updated since their inception more than twenty years ago. A proposal for revision of SMCP has been submitted to the IMO Maritime Safety Committee. This proposal focuses on modernising subjects already present in the SMCP. In light of the radical technological revolutions that the digitalisation and automation of shipping will bring about, it might be useful to include these topics in the revision of SMCP as well.

This study aims to look at the revision of SMCP from the point of view of the seafaring officers and to gauge their views on it. The central research question is therefore: “Are seafaring officers in favour of revising and modernising SMCP?”

To obtain a statistically relevant sample, a quantitative survey was used, supplemented with a qualitative expert interview.

The survey showed that the respondents from the sample group are in favour of modernising SMCP, especially with regard to digitalisation, automation and sustainability.

Several ideas in regard to a possible restructuring of SMCP were discussed.