

Newsletter 3 / September 2015



Emergency management in icy waters

The international conference ShipArc 2015 brought together over 300 participants from 75 countries at the World Maritime University in Malmö 25-27 August 2015. The conference was jointly organized by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the PAME working group of the Arctic Council, and the World Maritime University (WMU). The focus was on operations in the Arctic and the Polar code. Natalia Andreassen and Odd Jarl Borch from UIN, and Svetlana Kuznetsova and Sergey Markov from NARFU contributed with the presentation "Emergency Management in maritime mass evacuation operations".

The focus of this presentation was the managerial challenges of mass evacuation operations. The authors used the rescue of cruise ship "Maxim Gorkiy" in the Barents Sea in 1989 as a case. The paper describes the stages in the rescue operation and analyzes the management roles of the coordinators involved.

Official WMU press release: [Here.](#)

Photo: Odd Mydland

Observation studies at exercises

Marpert researchers are continuously following exercises to gather data for further analyses. This year we have participated at the following exercises:

- Integrated Violent Action Combat And SAR Operation - The Annual exercise at

the University of Nordland, Bodo, April 23, 2015

- HarbourEx15 SAR and oil recovery operation, Oslo, April 28, 2015
 - Exercise Helgeland oil recovery operation, 2015 May 5-7, 2015
- NATO Arctic Security Forces Roundtable, Reykjavik May 12-13, 2015.
- Exercise Barents 2015 SAR and oil recovery operation, Barents Sea, June 2015

For further information about reports from exercises, please contact the Marpart project leader, professor Odd Jarl Borch at the University of Nordland

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Arctic shipping and safety issues

Nataliya Marchenko presented the article “Arctic Shipping Challenges and Safety Issues” at IGU Conference 2015. Arctic shipping is a big challenge due to heavy ice and weather conditions, geographical remoteness, climate-change, electronic communications problems, lack of data. In her presentation Nataliya discussed the importance to learn from previous experience for the safety of shipping in the Arctic.

The Incident command system in emergency operations



The 11th International Conference on Marine Navigation and Safety of Sea Transportation “TransNav” was held at Gdynia Maritime University in 17-19 June 2015. Professor Odd Jarl Borch and researcher Natalia Andreassen gave a presentation of a scientific paper among other participants from 57 countries. The published article describes some essential elements of incident command systems needed for coordination in the Arctic. The emergency operations here challenged not only by harsh climate conditions, but also by scarce emergency resources, political sensitivity, limited training and experience in the High North waters, international conflicting responsibilities, different cultures and languages, and lack of trust. The analysis focuses on particular managerial roles and structuring mechanisms that may contribute to a joint emergency system in the High North. Book preview: [Here](#)

International Conference on Port and Ocean Engineering under Arctic Conditions

Nataliya A. Marchenko presented to articles at the conference. The first one is "Maritime activity in the High North - The Range of unwanted incidents and risk patterns". The article was developed together with Sergey V. Markov (The Arctic Federal University in Arkhangelsk, Russia) and Odd J. Borch and Natalia Andreassen (The University of Nordland, Bodø, Norway). The authors look into different stressors and risk factors in the Arctic related to life and environment (geographical remoteness, climate-change and weather, electronic communications challenges, sea ice, lack of precise maps and data); make an overview of maritime activity level and risk assessment; discuss implications for the preparedness systems.

In addition, Nataliya Marchenko presented her own article - "Ship traffic in the Svalbard area and safety issues". Svalbard plays a key role in safety preparedness for the whole Arctic Sector. The main challenges for navigation here are logistics and large distances, sea ice, and inadequate charts. The main challenges for SAR in addition are remoteness, lack of human resources and hypothermia. Hence, analysis of ship traffic patterns, previous accidents and SAR features is presented in the article.

About Marpart

The Marpart project emphasizes organization, coordination and managerial roles in maritime emergency situations where partnership between institutions in several countries are needed. The project is funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Nordland county administration. Researchers from nine universities in four countries participate.

For more information, see [here](#).

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