

## The MISSIM project

Simulators are the backbone of modern maritime education and training. It is vitally important to keep these simulators up to date in order to keep up with the developments in the maritime sector and to incorporate all aspects of operations at sea. Therefore, Antwerp Maritime Academy (AMA), with the support of the European Fund for regional development, is investing in new state of the art simulators, equipped with flexible software and realistic hardware. The bridge and engine room simulators will be interconnected which is a unique setup. Our **new simulator hub** will include:

- ~ 8 full mission navigation simulators
- ~ A full-scale engine room simulator with real hardware including a real engine,
- ~ an integrated simulator environment (ISE) to practice:
  - ~ the use of electronic charts and radar equipment
  - ~ cargo handling
  - ~ engine room management
  - ~ communication
  - ~ safety procedures

This combination of connected simulators will allow us to create multidisciplinary scenarios which benefits the complexity of **training and education** programs. These programs, developed together with the industry, will prepare future and current maritime professionals for the decades to come and secure the development towards new industry practices (for example the bunkering of gas fuelled ships, engine room procedures with regards to the decarbonisation of maritime transport, AI-assisted officers, remote control tasks etc...)

The new simulator hub will empower the ambition of AMA to strengthen its activities as a nautical and maritime operations knowledge centre. In our new founded MISSIMlab we aspire to expand our activities in **maritime research** by simulating operational processes on board to empirically investigate and/or validate innovations regarding these processes in close collaboration with industry and academic partners.

AMA thereby invites industrial partners to develop, in **cocreation**, applications towards the complete maritime community:

- ~ Futureproof maritime education.
- ~ Training programs to keep the maritime professionals up to date.
- ~ Research on innovative tools on board, offshore and in port environments.

To achieve these goals together with AMA staff, researchers and students we are looking for partners.

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