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20-21

Emissions position
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26-27



NL nieuws
Twee pagina's met nieuws uit Nederland
36-37



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Euro-harmony on seafarer training?

 Nautilus International members are being invited to take part in a conference looking at the unification of European maritime training and education.

Taking place in London on Friday 16 December, the conference is being held as part of the EU-funded project UniMET, which has been examining ways of improving seafarer employment and mobility opportunities through harmonised maritime training and education.

The project — whose partners include leading maritime training bodies from across the EU — is proposing a distinctive quality assurance and control system for the delivery of UniMET and other vocational programmes, based on the existing Edexcel BTEC system.

Project leaders are seeking to inform local, national and international licensing and professional bodies about the programme, and to spread good practice. They aim to embed the UniMET programme within the partner countries through cross-referencing international and local/national requirements.

Dr Martin Ziarati, director of the Centre for Factories of the Future and UniMET project manager, commented: 'The conference will provide a platform to invite and communicate with key stakeholders within the maritime sector from countries across Europe.'

» More information about UniMET and the conference is available at www.unimet.pro