

Marseilles Fos works on EU simulator training study

The port of Marseilles Fos is preparing its initial contribution to a European Union-funded project in which key ports are working to develop a common approach to simulation-based training.

Launched last November, the OPTIMUS (Operational Port Training Model Using Simulators) programme is due to end in October 2010 with guidelines on standard training pre-requisites within the framework of national differences in culture, legislation, regulations and practical issues.

Marseilles Fos, which has used a latest-generation simulator to train crane drivers since 2006, has been primarily assigned to develop a web platform that harmonises training theory before future operators progress to simulator and on-site training.

Project partners include Valencia, Spain, which has already acquired a simulator, and other ports that are set to follow, such as Livorno in Italy and Koper in Slovenia. Their input on the human components of simulation training is being supported by robotics specialists at Italy's University of Pisa.

For port images, see Espace presse/Phototheque at www.marseille-port.fr

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