Digital Tools Enhance Compliance Monitoring

Two digital developments have recently been unveiled in the maritime world which will provide a better window into international conventions and flag state requirements.

The Korean Register (KR) has launched the latest version of its "KR-CON", a digital database that contains almost all of the international conventions and other instruments from the International Maritime Organization (IMO). Additionally, the classification society DNV has updated its recently-released digital Compliance Planner which will now enable DNV customers to monitor their entire fleets and individual vessels against flag state compliance requirements.

The KR's new version of KR-CON is the 20th since it was first developed and launched in 2000.

It is used by seafarers, onshore support staff, maritime educational institutions and governments around the world. The latest version has been updated to improve the system's speed and stability, enabling users to install the USB version of the database directly onto a computer.

Allowing the program to be driven directly on a PC overcomes the limits of USB performance. There is also a version of the system that can be installed via the web to improve its speed of use.

The new version of KR-CON includes amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), and other procedures and guidelines adopted by the 31st Assembly of the IMO, the 104th Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) and the 77th Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) in 2021.

The database will be continuously updated to reflect any revised documents adopted in the future.

The KR currently classes an international fleet of 3055 vessels totalling 77 million gross tonnes. It is authorised to perform statutory and certification services in 81 countries around the world.

DNV's Compliance Planner tool updates include:

- flag state requirements added to supplement IMO, International Labour Organization (ILO) and European Union regulations
- tool expanded to cover mobile offshore units (MOUs) in DNV class
- overview of regulatory requirements continuously updated

Oslo-based DNV says international shipping and offshore regulations are expanding in scope and complexity, increasing the burden on shipowners and operators, and the tool is designed to provide an overview of requirements.

The Compliance Planner provides the user with a tailored list of requirements that their fleet or individual vessel needs to meet to achieve compliance. Once logged in, the tool presents all of the upcoming statutory requirements based on the vessels in DNV's MyFleet portal.

The results are filtered to match the vessels within a customer's fleet and broken down into mandatory and optional requirements. It also offers an easy jump-off point to information that will help customers familiarise themselves with new regulations.

Furthermore, the tool is continuously updated to reflect the latest decisions of regulators and includes several options for demonstrating compliance.

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