

**ACHIEVEMENT OF PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE VIA EDUCATIONAL APPROACH "EDUCATION, TECHNOLOGIES AND SELF-DEVELOPMENT"**

**Kondrashov D, student, group 1391 (NU «OMA»)**

At the present stage of development of the maritime transport industry, there is an active dynamic of technological progress aimed at improving safety, efficiency and economic benefits by reducing human resources. In such conditions, the level of requirements for the competence of seafarers increases, which is reflected in the selection of Crewing companies specialize in the selection of seafarers for their further employment. Every year the set of necessary minimum criteria changes and becomes more demanding. The following is a list of standard requirements:

- Availability of higher education in the relevant specialty;
- Availability of working documents, confirmations and certificates, US visas, with a margin of validity of at least one and a half years from the date of submission of documents;
- Experience in this position and on the appropriate type of vessel;
- References from previous jobs;
- Sufficient knowledge of English; the minimum required level depends on the position and is verified by tests and interview;
- Positive results during the interview with the captain as well as passing tests that confirm the level of knowledge (competence);
- No health problems;
- No criminal record, etc.

Work at sea is a constant confirmation of qualification at different stages of the professional path of each seafarer: obtaining higher education, working documents and certificates, passing the recruitment procedures, acquiring skills during the real voyage, regular inspections at sea (port, class, audits, etc.), as well as updating of documents and refresher course exams.

Thus, based on the known facts about the maritime profession, international conventions and resolutions, shipowners' requirements for crew training, tests and examinations related to certification, as well as taking into account the continuous development of the international maritime fleet, there is a desparate need for appropriate optimization of the educational process.

Despite the variety of courses and the amount of information presented in higher education institutions, to understand the importance of the educational process, the first-year students need to encompass this information.

Firstly, the modern educational process should be formed in accordance with the required level of qualification by such methods and approaches that would allow higher education students to acquire not only necessary theoretical knowledge, but also practical skills. For example, mastering the material in the "Navigation and Pilotage", "Ship Management", "MPZZS", "GMZLB" courses would be more informative and applicable if they were conducted immediately in the "shift" mode on the ship's bridge simulator. In this way, higher education students will gain deep understanding of exactly where and how this knowledge is applied in their future profession. [1]

Secondly, the scale of development of marine technologies today requires future professionals to be trained to work directly with any equipment and under any conditions. To replace the ship's crew in the port takes several hours, while the ship does not stop working and cannot postpone already planned operations (cargo, ballast, fuel ones, etc.). In other words, a new crew member starts working immediately, without time for adaptation and training, that is why "onboard training" should be implemented at the very beginning of training. In addition, it is desirable to introduce graduates to the equipment of various manufacturers used on ships of the international fleet.[2]

Thirdly, future professionals need to work out a habit of independent searching for necessary existing and new information. Because the seafaring profession is diverse, it is creative. Self-

development is a necessary component of continuous professional development.

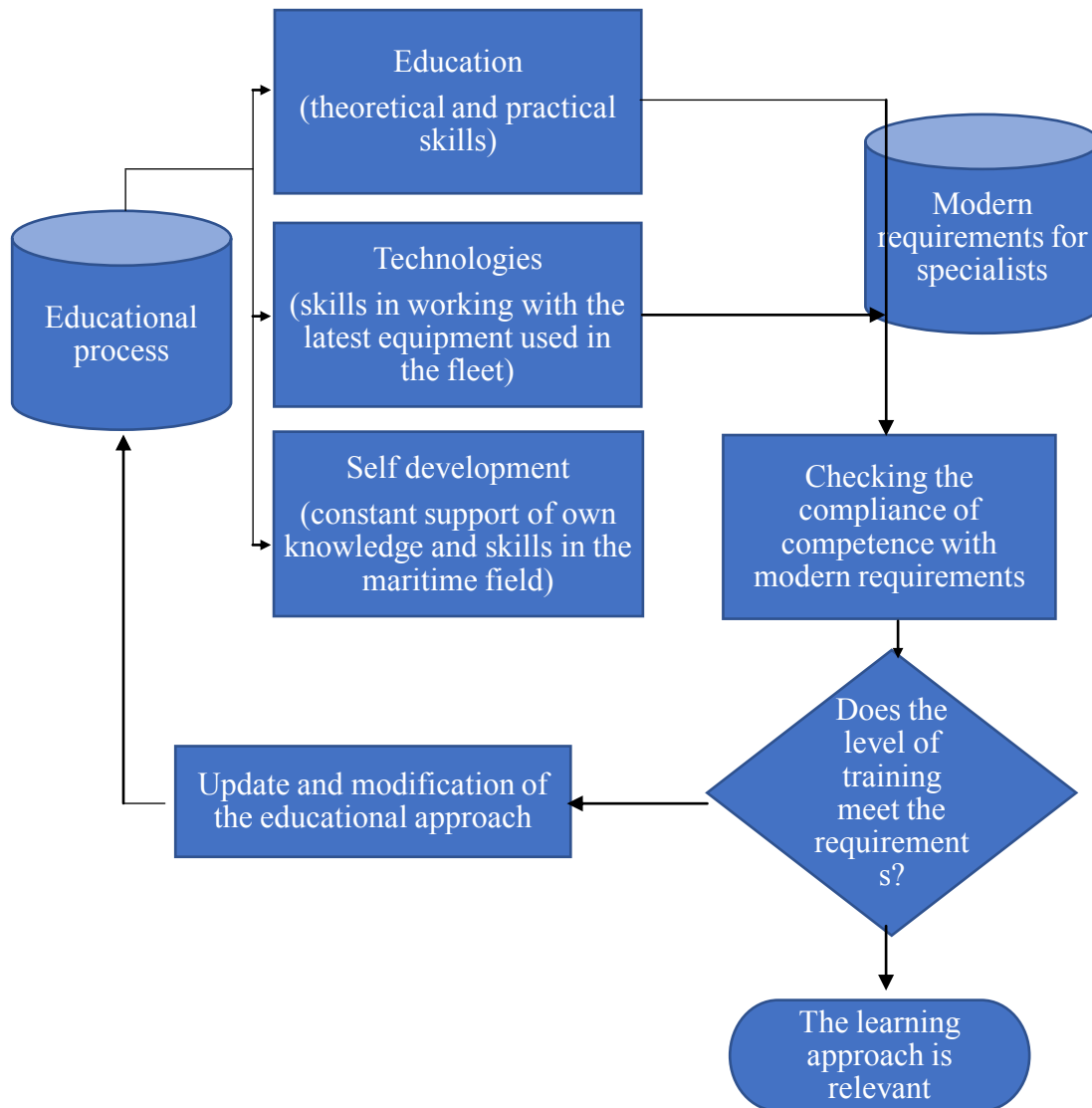


Fig 1. Block diagram of a simplified algorithm for constant educational approach

Nowadays, it is possible to get news in the marine industry virtually in any part of the world, so the desire to expand knowledge is always appropriate. [3]

The above mentioned three points can be combined in the educational approach "Education, Technology and Self-Development", which is based primarily on the requirements of the specialist in real time. The methodology for training qualified specialists in the maritime industry must be constantly updated. The simplified algorithm is shown in the diagram in Figure 1. Under these conditions, the future specialist will not only be more qualified, but will be protected from stress, which is provoked by the following factors:

1. Lack of knowledge, practical and theoretical.
2. Lack of sound assessment and understanding of the future profession, namely responsibilities and work style;
3. Inability to multi-task;
4. Lack of experience in performing tasks in a team;
5. Inability to adhere to subordination, etc.

Summarizing the given information, the lack of qualification training is a key destructive factor in shaping the professional path of seafarers. Thus, with innovative approaches in the

educational process and the corresponding high requirements for future professionals, it is possible to achieve professional competence at a decent level, increasing the demand for Ukrainian professionals in the maritime labor market.

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