

# PASSIONATE


MAGAZINE

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ROSARIO  
TRAPANESE

Founder | IMAT

IMPRINT : 2024





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10

# ROSARIO TRAPANESE



COMMENT



# ROSARIO





# TRAPANESE

Founder | IMAT





**T**he maritime training industry plays a crucial role in preparing seafarers for the challenges of navigating the world's oceans. Through comprehensive training programs and state-of-the-art simulators, this industry equips individuals with the skills and knowledge necessary to ensure safe and efficient maritime operations. With a focus on safety, compliance, and proficiency, maritime training institutions strive to uphold the highest standards of excellence, preparing seafarers to navigate complex maritime environments with confidence and competence. Captain Rosario Trapanese is a visionary leader in the maritime training industry. With a deep commitment to safety and excellence, he founded IMAT (the Italian Academy of Maritime Technology) to revolutionize the way seafarers are trained. Under his guidance, IMAT has become a pioneer in maritime

education, embracing cutting-edge technology and fostering collaboration with industry partners to enhance training standards and promote sustainable maritime practices. His dedication to the well-being and professional development of seafarers has earned him recognition as a driving force in shaping the future of maritime training.

### **Navigating Safety: The Vision of Captain Rosario and IMAT**

Captain Rosario, the founder of IMAT, is on a mission to instill a safety-first ethos within the maritime industry. At the heart of IMAT's philosophy lies the belief in fostering a culture of excellence to mitigate maritime accidents. Central to this is the concept of lifelong learning, where the continuous enhancement of skills is synonymous with reliability and quality.

IMAT's primary objective is to provide seafarers with training that adheres to rigorous international standards, thereby enhancing safety within the realm of shipping. Leveraging advanced technology and the expertise of seasoned instructors, IMAT offers a comprehensive array of training programs, ranging from mandatory STCW courses to those recommended by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) upon request.

A cornerstone of IMAT's approach is the establishment of robust and enduring connections between the skills of seafarers and the broader shipping community. By creating an integrated ecosystem, IMAT seeks to streamline the training process by forging collaborative partnerships with shipping companies, governmental authorities, and international training centers. IMAT's commitment to excellence is underscored by its





accreditation under various flags, including the Italian Flag, Bahamas Flag, Malta Flag, and Panama Flag. Moreover, all STCW courses conducted by IMAT are conducted in English, ensuring accessibility and inclusivity for a diverse range of seafarers. Additionally, IMAT is proud to be accredited under the Liberia Monrovia flag and Cook's Island flag, further solidifying its commitment to global maritime safety standards.

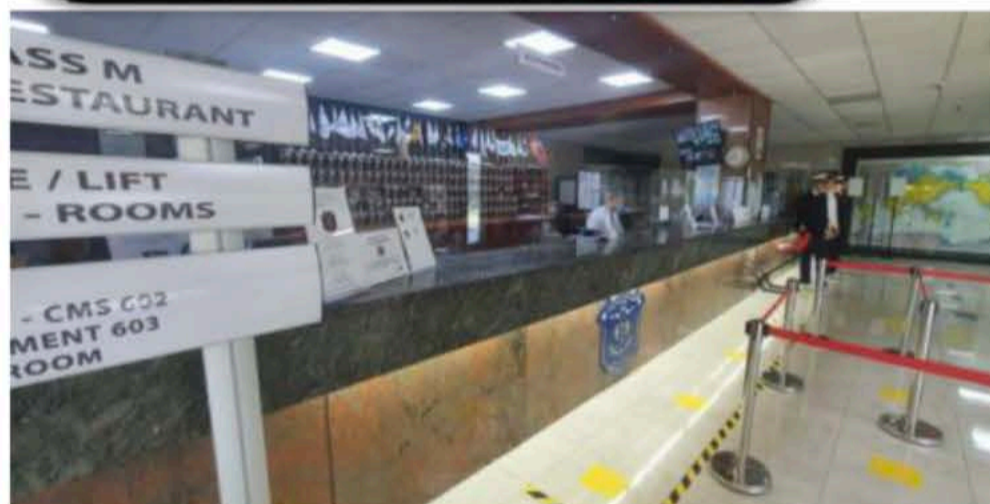
Captain Rosario's vision for IMAT encapsulates a steadfast dedication to promoting safety, excellence, and collaboration within the maritime industry. Through continuous innovation and commitment to international standards, IMAT showcases reliability and trust in the ever-evolving world of shipping.

### **Captain Rosario's Vision for Maritime Training at IMAT**

Since its beginning in 2006, the Italian Academy of Maritime Technology (IMAT) has been at the forefront of training the future seafarers of the merchant navy. Under the guidance of its founder, Captain Rosario Trapanese, IMAT has evolved into a premier institution dedicated to preparing seafarers for the challenges of professional life.

Captain Rosario's vision to establish a training center that mirrors Italy's rich maritime heritage led to the opening of IMAT's first office and the acquisition of a modern navigation simulator. What began as a modest endeavor soon turned into today's expansive nautical institute, boasting 70 classrooms, multiple simulators, 165 rooms, a restaurant, a training center, and a comprehensive array of hotel services. The driving force behind IMAT's success lies in its commitment to continuous research and innovation in the realm of training. This commitment is evident in the institution's team of highly qualified instructors and the incorporation of state-of-the-art technology throughout its facilities.

IMAT's greatest asset is its team of dedicated professionals who, through perseverance and ongoing training, ensure the delivery of an unparalleled learning experience. Today, IMAT stands proud with a simulation complex comprising five 360° bridge simulators, three engine room simulators, approximately 280 linked workstations, 21 mini bridges, two firefighting fields (green flag certified), and two platforms for PSCRB and FRB trainings on private lakes. Captain Rosario's vision for IMAT epitomizes a steadfast commitment to excellence in maritime training. Through continuous innovation and a relentless pursuit of quality,



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IMAT believes in  
continuous  
improvement and  
innovation to  
meet the evolving  
needs of the  
maritime industry.  
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IMAT remains steadfast in its mission to prepare seafarers for the dynamic challenges of the maritime industry.

### **Captain Rosario's Vision for Maritime Training at IMAT S.r.l.**

At IMAT S.r.l., the gaze is firmly set on the horizon as Captain Rosario leads the charge toward the future of maritime training. With a steadfast commitment to excellence, the company invests in top-tier instructors and cutting-edge technologies to stay ahead of the curve.

The investment strategy at IMAT S.r.l. is geared towards realism and effectiveness. Real equipment models, such as a 26-meter-wide navigation bridge spanning 1000 square meters and a state-of-the-art Wartsila v12 50 DF engine equipped with the latest automation systems from APSS Wartsila and UNIC, underscore the company's dedication to providing seafarers with the most authentic training experience possible. Recognizing the significant role of education in promoting safe, secure, environmentally responsible, efficient, and sustainable shipping practices, IMAT S.r.l. places formation at the forefront of its mission. The company's steadfast commitment to this cause has garnered the trust of numerous shipping companies and flags, validating its efforts in shaping the maritime industry's future.

In alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, IMAT S.r.l. is a pioneer in environmental stewardship within the maritime training landscape. As the first center in Europe to earn the Green Flag for zero







pollution in its firefighting fields, the company upholds a plastic-free policy and continuously seeks to minimize its environmental footprint. Embracing its role as a non-governmental organization (NGO), IMAT S.r.l. leverages its technologies, knowledge, and resources to elevate formation standards and enhance maritime human standards worldwide. By remaining responsive to the evolving needs of shipping companies, the company ensures that its training offerings remain relevant and impactful.

As a trailblazing training center, IMAT S.r.l. anticipates industry demands and proactively develops courses, even before the International Maritime Organization (IMO) issues formal directives. From pioneering Polar Courses using advanced simulators to offering LNG/LPG courses for personnel, IMAT S.r.l. remains at the forefront of innovation in maritime education. Captain Rosario's vision for IMAT embodies a steadfast commitment to excellence,

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I am passionate about ensuring that every seafarer receives the highest quality training possible. Seeing our trainees succeed and thrive in their maritime careers is the most rewarding aspect of my work.  
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# COVER STORY

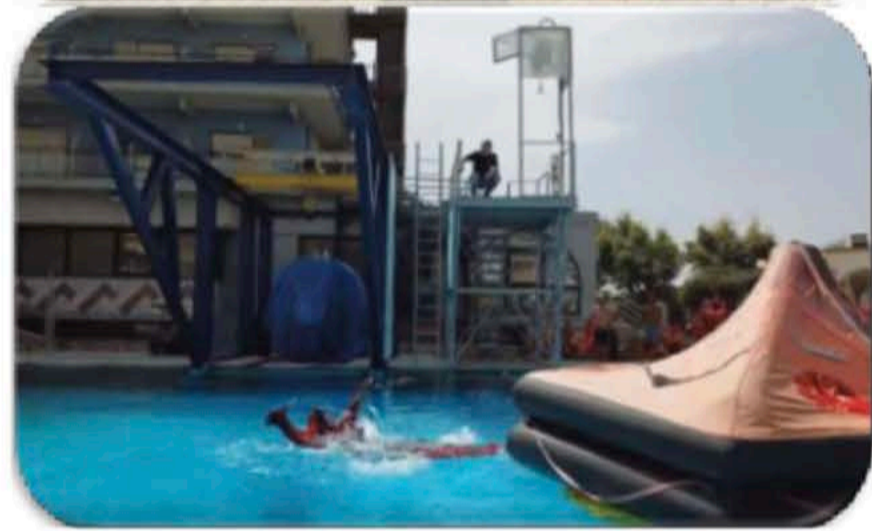
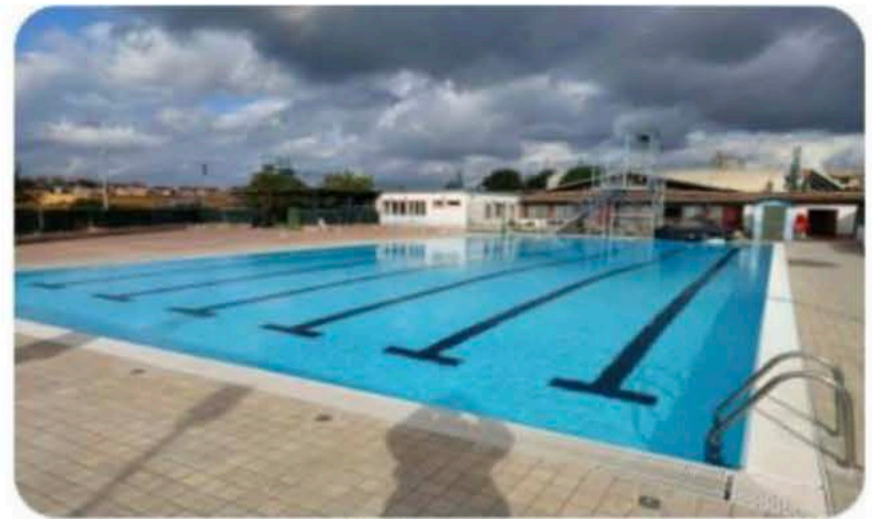
innovation, and sustainability in maritime training. By staying true to its core values and embracing forward-thinking strategies, the company continues to shape the future of the maritime industry for generations to come.

## Sailing Ahead: Captain Rosario's Insights into IMAT's Innovations

IMAT continues to push boundaries in maritime training with the installation of the first and only real bunkering simulator for LNG. This groundbreaking technology allows for the transfer of cryogenic gas at  $-196^{\circ}\text{C}$  during operation, enhancing safety and realism in training scenarios.

With a focus on emerging technologies, IMAT has long provided courses on battery-powered ships, prioritizing safety considerations at every turn. The company has forged numerous agreements with major global shipping companies, offering hotel facilities, courses, and live e-learning opportunities to support small island developing states (SIDS) and least developed countries (LDCs) in navigating the shipping market.

Captain Rosario emphasizes the importance of staying ahead of the curve in training methodologies. As new technologies and fuel sources gain approval from major conventions, IMAT believes in the swift development of corresponding courses to equip seafarers with essential knowledge. The company recognizes that investing in comprehensive training is paramount, as inadequate preparation can lead to a rise in preventable accidents at sea.



While simulators play a crucial role in training, IMAT adheres to strict standards to ensure their efficacy. The company combines advanced simulator technology with real training fields, aligning with the SOLAS vision for realistic drills. IMAT's facilities include two lake platforms, one situated on a private lake, where trainees can engage in hands-on PSCBR and FRB training courses. Additionally, two environmentally friendly firefighting houses provide a simulated vessel section where trainees can experience and mitigate the challenges of real-life fire scenarios in a controlled environment. Captain Rosario's insights shed light on IMAT's commitment to innovation and safety in maritime training. By embracing new technologies and fostering a hands-on learning environment, IMAT continues to set the standard for excellence in the industry, ensuring that seafarers are equipped to navigate the challenges of the ever-evolving maritime landscape.

## Navigating Success: Captain Rosario's Insights into Training at IMAT

Captain Rosario emphasizes the distinction between education and training, highlighting the importance of real-world experience in the latter. At IMAT, the focus lies on practical training that exposes seafarers to various situations, allowing them to master procedures through



repetition and practice. This emphasis on experiential learning ensures that seafarers are equipped to handle real-life challenges with confidence and competence.

Recognizing the multifaceted nature of maritime operations, IMAT goes beyond technical training to address psychological, gender equality, and well-being aspects. By listening to stakeholders and continually improving standards and course offerings, IMAT strives to evolve alongside the industry towards a more sustainable future. The company views investment in the human element as paramount to fostering a thriving maritime community.

With the motto "Failure is not an option," IMAT is committed to ensuring the success and safety of the thousands of international seafarers trained each year. Through its dedication to comprehensive training and continuous improvement, IMAT aims to support the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in its mission to enhance maritime standards and practices worldwide. By prioritizing practical experience and holistic development, IMAT prepares seafarers to navigate the complexities of the maritime industry with skill, resilience, and integrity.

#### **Bridging Boundaries: IMAT's Collaborative Endeavors**

IMAT's engagement extends beyond maritime training to encompass partnerships with the United Nations system and various intergovernmental organizations, reflecting its commitment to global cooperation and advancement.

Participation in the Erasmus+ project "Cultivating Green Skills in the Maritime Sector" exemplifies IMAT's proactive approach to addressing contemporary challenges. Alongside seven European partners, IMAT endeavors to enhance maritime standards and training programs in alignment with the European Green Deal's ambitious goals. By championing sustainability and combating climate change, IMAT contributes to the collective effort to create a climate-neutral Europe by 2050.

As the lead organization in the European project "Overheat: Innovative Strategies for Container Fire Prevention and Management," IMAT collaborates with 18 partners from across Europe to tackle the critical issue of container fire prevention and management. Through this initiative, IMAT and its partners are dedicated to enhancing prevention, detection, management, response, and recovery measures for container ship fires, ensuring the safety of crew members and the integrity of maritime operations.

IMAT's involvement in these collaborative endeavors reflects its commitment to driving positive change within the maritime sector. By actively engaging in initiatives aimed at fostering sustainability and improving safety standards, IMAT exemplifies the spirit of international cooperation and innovation in pursuit of a safer and more sustainable maritime industry.



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Captain Rosario's  
leadership has  
transformed as IMAT  
is committed to  
shaping the future  
of maritime training  
through collaboration  
and excellence.  
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