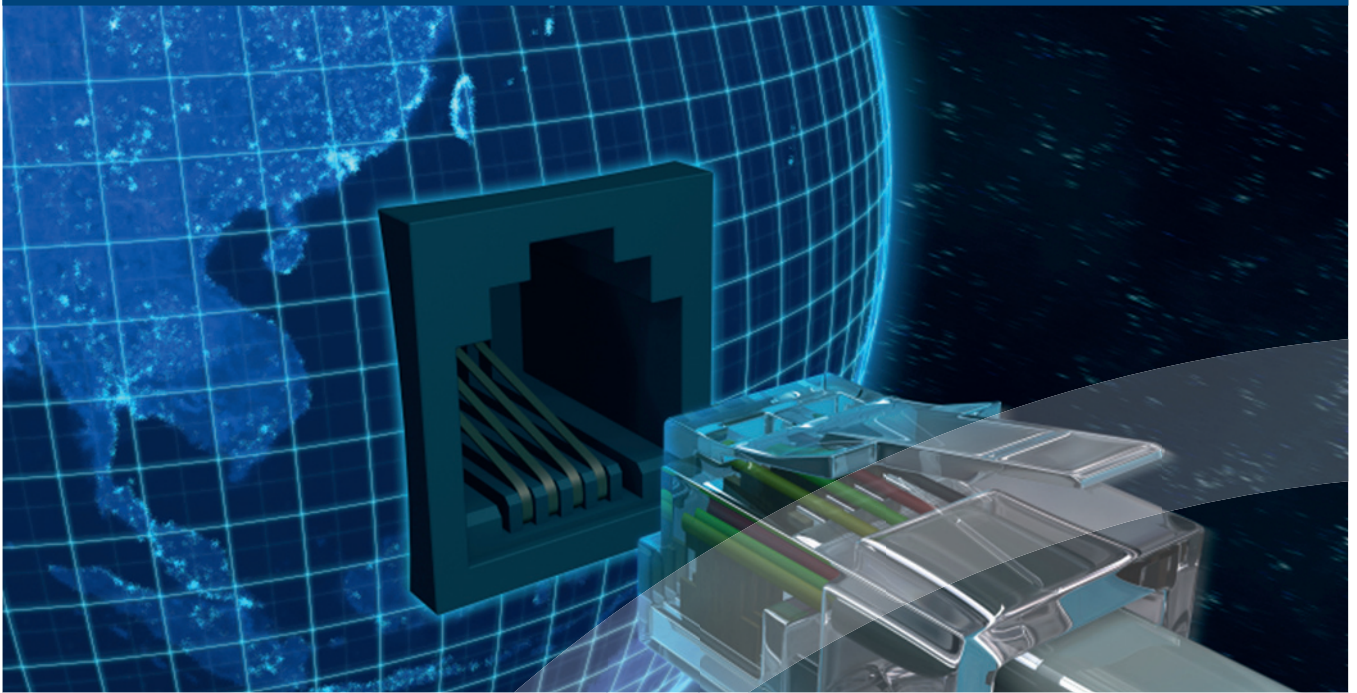




Web-Based Training



Full access, any time, any place

The Training Institute for Dredging (TID) has developed a new, unique resource for training dredging operators and maintenance personnel. Web Based Training will allow them to improve their dredging knowledge, skills and experience at their own computer on location.

Dredging contractors have added a lot of new equipment to their fleets in recent years, and they are struggling with the challenge of finding people to operate all this equipment efficiently and safely. Alongside the tried and trusted crews, they have to recruit large numbers of people with a general technical background but no dredging knowledge or experience.

New Technologies

TID already offered tailor made courses and open courses based on the level of the trainees and the functional requirements of the course, in the form of classical training such as classroom sessions and workshops, and in the form of On-the-job Training, Simulator Training and Computer Training. However current developments in high-speed, broadband internet have now given TID the opportunity to add Web-Based Training to its training possibilities, so people can train themselves from their own home, office or vessel, without traveling and accommodation expenses and without interruptions to the normal work cycle.

What they learn can be put straight into practice on the job, and this definitely enhances the solidity of newly acquired knowledge, skills and experience. Trainees from customers who buy the facility can simply log in on an Internet portal, with immediate access to the programme. The benefits of training are obvious: improved production, less downtime and wear – and more self-confidence, safety and pleasure on the job for the crew in question.



Higher ROI

Web-Based Training will be more than just a voluminous reference manual that people use to check on what they should do and how to do it. It is a fully interactive training programme for dredging contractors' technical and operational staff. The building blocks of competence involve knowledge, skills and experience. TID's basic



assumption for the programme is that steepening the learning curve reduces risks and production losses. This has been proven in practice and confirmed by grateful TID clients time and again.



Operator training generates a huge return on investment: a mere 5% improvement in production on even the smallest dredger easily offsets training costs within just a short time. And a 5% improvement in dredging performance is not the rule: improvements of between 30-70% have been reported after a single course.

Fully interactive modular training programme

Web-Based Training is a fully interactive modular training programme dealing with the main aspects of dredging. Any module can be accessed from the home page and every module is a complete mix of training resources. In other words, the modules are built around clear educational goals such as: 'after this module the trainee is visibly able to execute the spud carrier cycle' or: 'the trainee has demonstrated the ability to control the dredge pump repair procedure in the right order'.

The training includes the provision of information, facts and concepts. For example: the trainee can be asked to identify the right preparations and procedure for pump maintenance in the electronic manual before executing the procedure virtually in the Web-Based Training programme. A lot of emphasis is placed on interactive learning methods intended to rehearse, imprint, stabilise and secure the content of the course. Test results check how well the content has been learnt.

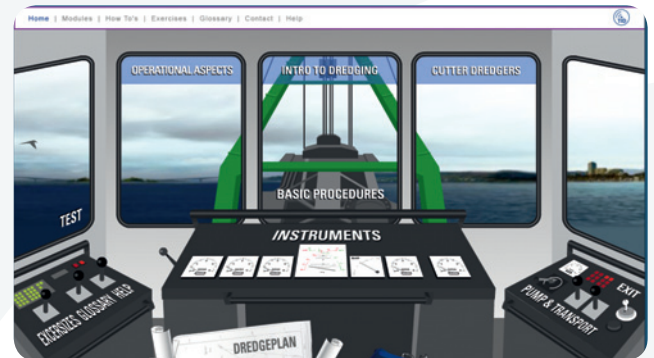
Films, videos, crosswords, workshops, Internet searches for additional information, orders to compare equipment and virtual exercises are all used to ensure that the subject matter is assimilated in the trainee's mindset and experience. There are informative equipment oriented modules about components such as dredge pumps, cutters and suction heads.

Other modules are skills oriented and provide virtual exercises of every kind, such as inspections of wear and tear, the mobilisation of the dredger, or the performance of maintenance jobs. Of course, a glossary is available with a description of every main component, but trainees checking it must be prepared to complete a test before moving on.

The dredge plan is very important for the efficient and safe operation of the dredger so a separate module is devoted to the details of this subject. The experience-oriented operational module allows the trainee to practice the sequence of basic procedures on a virtual console on the trainee's video screen.

Firm basis

The Web-Based Training can train operators to a first, basic, level of performance. This training will also be a really good start in preparation for a full-scale training. The full-scale TID trainings usually involve a mix of theory, classroom training, training on the job and performance training on advanced simulators. Trainees who have completed Web-Based Training will benefit much more from the 'live' full-scale programme, simply because they have practiced with the equipment, the procedures, the jobs and the simulator in virtual reality time and again; they have already acquired experience.



By offering the Web-Based training TID is providing a clear and innovative resource that has been lacking until now, meeting the day-to-day training needs of the whole dredging world: dredging contractors, operators and maintenance personnel.

INFORMATION

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