

30th August 2024 Webinar

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

QUESTION

I think there should be more than an online assessment. Incidents and case studies should be shared as well for a holistic approach to improving safety standards. Are there any plans for these and also for sharing (sic) best practices in the industry?

It is DBCE's intention to develop all your suggestions together with a benchmarking tool and other safety initiatives. Our constitution allows the formation of a committee to oversee the development, implementation and promotion of the DryBMS Framework promoting the interests of its subscribers in all matters of safety, health, environment and sustainability and crew welfare.

QUESTION

Companies' feedback so far?

Feedback has been very positive with a steady stream of subscribers.

QUESTION

Will the DryBMS audit compliance answers be included in future RISQ updated versions question checks? (like TMSA elements included in Sire 2.0)

We assume RISQ is the RightShip Inspection Ship Questionnaire. We would not know as this is a RightShip product. DBCE is an independent not-for-profit industry organisation dedicated to raising standards and best practices in dry shipping through the implementation of the DryBMS framework.

QUESTION

Will DMBS conduct onboard inspections similar to RIGHTSHIP?

It is not our intention to conduct any vessel inspections. The DryBMS framework is a tool allowing subscribers to conduct a self assessment of their management systems against an industry standard of excellence in ship management. DBCE is the administrator of DryBMS and does not conduct assessments.

QUESTION

- 1 When company's self-assessment is submitted after how long you are obliged to pass the office audit**
- 2 Elaborate further on the audit regime**
- 3 Validity of the audit.**

There is no mandatory requirement to have a verification audit. A subscriber will be able to apply to DBCE for a verification audit. That verification audit will be valid until the subscriber submits a new self assessment. The verification accreditation system (VAS) is under development. However, training and accreditation of verification auditors is scheduled to start in 2025.

QUESTION

- 1 How can I support the programme as a freelance consultant?**
- 2 How to join the pool of accredited auditors?**

DBCE is drafting the terms of reference for auditor qualification and accreditation. These will be circulated to interested parties during December 2024.

QUESTION

How often can we update/revise our submission?

Can we upload any attachment to our submission?

Is there a deadline for us to upload our submission?

If we upload our submission, will this be mentioned in Rightship platform?

Who will have access to view our submission?

The management of your DryBMS self assessment is completely in your hands. You can update/revise your submission whenever you like. However, it is important that the process is led and managed by a senior figure in the organisation, but self-assessment works best when it is an integral part of your company's activity, not something that is done by just a few people on behalf of all the rest.

Uploaded attachments are not required but you may wish to reference part of your SMS as objective supporting evidence.

There are no deadlines, the control is yours.

The Dry Bulk Centre of Excellence (DBCE) is an independent not-for-profit industry organisation dedicated to raising standards and best practices in dry shipping through the implementation of the DryBMS framework. We are unable to comment on any actions taken by other organisations such as RightShip.

The submitted DryBMS is completely confidential to you. Only those you grant permission can review your submission.

QUESTION

Is there an intention or consideration of the existing DryBms Management Audits which were carried out within the last year to be somewhat taken into account within the DBCE platform?

There is no intention to consider DryBMS audits conducted by any organisations within the platform. Verification audits will be conducted by accredited DBCE auditors to a common standard. Verified self assessments will be annotated on the platform.

QUESTION

Is there any consolidated version of questionnaire rather than having it chapter by chapter?

The DryBMS is an online platform. The chapter-by-chapter version was the one used during the development of the standard for industry comment. This was withdrawn when the platform went live in August 2024.

QUESTION

Does the Dry-BMS audit is offered as a part of Rightship management audit?

Does any changes to Manager's DOC score or Vessels' safety score is anticipated after a Dry-BMS Office Audit?

What are the DOC Holder's benefits after a Rightship Management Audit?

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DryBMS verification audits will be conducted, on request, by accredited DBCE verification auditors.

QUESTION

- 1. Am I right in understanding that the DBCE portal can be accessed by potential charterers to download the DBMS audit reports if required for business?**

2. Going forward, will the scope of the DBCE portal be expanded to include RS inspection reports, Incident and PSD?

The DryBMS assessments can only be accessed by potential charterers that you grant permission to.

It is DBCE's intention to develop incident case studies, best practices, benchmarking and other safety initiatives to share with subscribers to improve safety. Our constitution allows the formation of a committee to oversee the development, implementation and promotion of the DryBMS Framework promoting the interests of it's subscribers in all matters of safety, health, environment and sustainability and crew welfare. It is not the intention to include data from any other organisation such as RightShip inspections.

QUESTION

There are occasional incidents of over drafts of ships on arrival discharging ports that caused significant expenses on the part of ship's owners. How do you suggest to prevent these incidents occurrences?

The DryBMS is a self assessment tool for ship operators to measure their management performance against industry best practice. Use of the tool will allow subscribers to provide a pathway for designing a way of maintaining good current practice or management improvements. There is a cargo section to aid operational excellence which will aid the prevention of this type of incident.

QUESTION

We used to be able to download the DBMS elements, now unless we subscribe we cannot download for free anymore, is this correct?

You are correct. The ability to download the standard was only during the development and consultation stage.

QUESTION

- 1. What happens to the Dry BMS badge recognition given by RightShip after conducting a DryBMS audit of a DOC?**
- 2. Will DBCE recognize the DryBMS audits by RightShip prior to the official launch of the DBCE portal?**
- 3. If the parent company is a part of INTERCARGO, will all subsidiary companies' subscription / registration fee be waived off?**

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There is no intention to consider DryBMS audits conducted by any organisations within the platform.

The matter of subscription refunds for INTERCARGO members should be addressed to INTERCARGO.

QUESTION

- 1. How can subscribing to the Dry Bulk Management Standard framework enhance a company's operational performance and reduce the risk of detention? (as per recent LinkedIn post)**
- 2. Why does it cost so much more to subscribe to DBCE and submit a self assessment v's TMSA?**
- 3. What is being done to trim the size of the DryBMS Standard? Anyone that has been involved in reviewing/assessing the standard considers it to be excessively large with multiple instances of repetition (Deepak knows).**
- 4. The DryBMS Standard has been drafted since 2021 and at the time of the DBCE launch very little updates have been made but since then we are further down the road in respect to things such as crew welfare, human factors and diversity - What is the plan for updating to account for these and other updates?**

The DryBMS is a self assessment tool for ship operators to measure their management performance against industry best practice. Use of the tool will allow subscribers to provide a pathway for designing a way of maintaining good current practice or management improvements. Guidance on operational excellence will aid PSC performance. DryBMS is a living document that will be updated periodically to reflect the changing environment in which we operate.

The subscriber fees were designed as a reasonable fee to support the DBCE secretariate as a non-for-profit organisation. We cannot comment on OCIMF fees.

The standard was compiled over an extensive consultation period. Our constitution allows the formation of a committee to oversee the development, implementation and promotion of the DryBMS Framework, this committee will review the standard. DryBMS is a living document that will be updated periodically to reflect the changing environment in which we operate.

Since the first inception of the standard there have been many modifications during industry consultation. The most recent were completed in 2024. The platform was launched in August 2024. It is the intention of DBCE to develop the standard together with the subscribers to meet industry expectations, including enhancing the areas of crew welfare, human factors and diversity. DryBMS is a living document that will be updated periodically to reflect the changing environment in which we operate.

QUESTION

- 1) Dry Bulk Management Standard 2021 – Is there any plan to provide an updated document?**
- 2) Scoring Methodology – I appreciate this was discussed and agreed back in 2021 but the reality is that the 0%, 25%, 50%, 75% & 100% scoring level for each level within a Subject Area is far from ideal. While 0% and 100% are clear and obvious, the 25%, 50% and 75% grading is only useful when there are four separate expectations within the level of a Subject area.....**

I am aware that MTI have tried to incorporate this into the portal for self-assessment submissions and that Rio Tinto have attempted to adopt the scoring methodology within their own self-assessment and scoring system (because it took so long to get DBCE & DryBMS up and running) but the reality is that it doesn't work..... it makes limited sense to the user and it is especially less than adequate from a consistency and assessors perspective.

This guidance document was superseded by Guidance in 2024 available at dbce.org.

The scoring methodology was developed during industry consultation. Various iterations were tested and the one in use was the one agreed to launch the platform. The committee, formed of subscriber representatives, overseeing development, implementation and promotion of the DryBMS

Framework will be able to propose the implementation of an alternative method.

QUESTION

What challenges did you face during the implementation of DBCE, and how did you overcome them

As with any major project there are many challenges to be faced and overcome probably of which the most difficult will be changing 'hearts and minds'. There will always be those who, while embracing the challenge of improving safety, will not necessarily see DryBMS as the right catalyst and who will need to be convinced that this is the way to go.

With 'management of change' being a key theme within DryBMS our expectation is that we will turn any negative or neutral views into strong, positive voices for change.

QUESTION

At later stage, will the platform include incidents review by the Charterers after voluntary reporting by the managers?

This would be possible if the subscribers wished. However, at this stage (5 weeks since platform launch) there are no plans to do this. It is DBCE's intention to develop a benchmarking tool and other safety initiatives.