

# A simple online tool could transform the maritime industry

By comparing similar maritime qualifications from different countries it will be easier for people in the maritime sector to move between jobs across Europe

TRECVET (Transnational Recognition of European Certification in Vocational Education and Training) was set up to address a long term problem in the maritime industry: the fact that professional skipper qualifications are not mutually recognised by European authorities. Professionals who are fully qualified in one country may not command an identical vessel if it operates under a different national flag.

Silja Teege, the Project Manager, is from Sea Teach, a sea school based in Spain. She explains what happened next.

"We gathered a team and worked out a proposal to start solving the problem. The realistic aim was to provide authorities with a tool to objectively compare qualifications, with the hope that they would recognise that their qualifications had more commonalities than differences."

The team, made up of specialists in maritime education and computer software from Germany, Poland, Spain and the United Kingdom, created an online comparison tool that breaks each qualification down into objectively comparable elements, allowing anyone to easily identify similarities and differences.

Though the tool compared skipper qualifications for small commercial vessels from three EU Member States first, the team continues its work to make it easier for authorities to recognise all skipper qualifications across Europe with the follow-up project TCC-SCV.

In fact, the tool is fully scalable. Not only could it transform the maritime industry, it could be used by authorities and VET institutions within any vocational industry, empowering people to make informed decisions about their career paths, and giving them the opportunity of Europe-wide job mobility.



Photo: © Shutterstock

## Key facts and figures

### Erasmus+

**Field:** Vocational Education and Training

**Action:** Strategic Partnerships

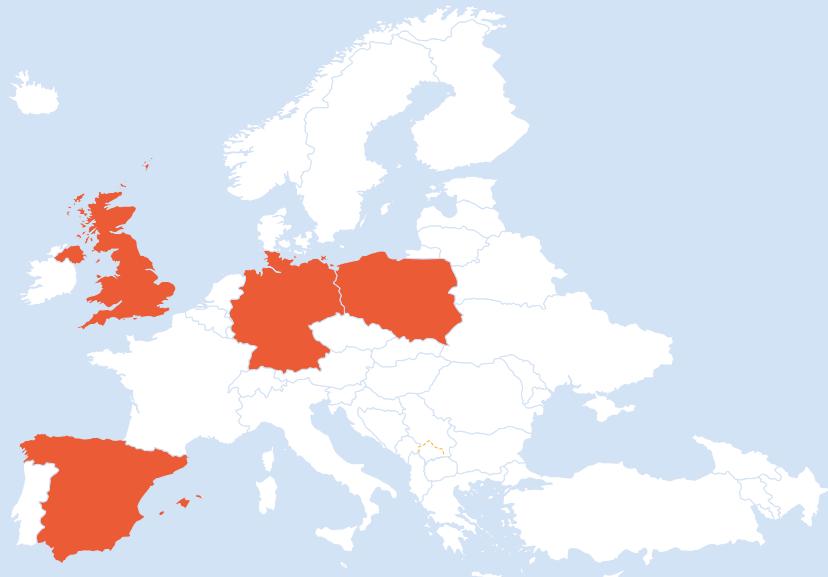
 **Organisations:** 5  **Countries:** 4

 **EU grant:** €299,480

 **Project duration:** 2011-2013

## Project title

Transnational Recognition of European Certification in Vocational Education and Training - TRECVET



## Lead organisation

**Name:** Sea Teach

**Location:** Cala D'or, Spain

**Website:** [www.sea-teach.com](http://www.sea-teach.com)

## Partners

Der Seebaer GbR, Germany; Danmar Computers, Poland; Facultat de Nàutica de Barcelona, Spain; Centre for Factories of the Future Limited, United Kingdom

## More information

**Project website:**  
[www.trecvet.eu](http://www.trecvet.eu)

**The Erasmus+ Project Results Platform:**  
<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects>