

Our journey with IDEA YACHT onboard MY Moonshadow



IDEA YACHT

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MY Moonshadow

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Captain Raymond Heer
IDEA YACHT onboard installation

IDEA YACHT has actually been part of Moonshadow since the vessel was launched in 2003.

Our journey with IDEA onboard Moonshadow

Before I joined in 2006, the original server had stopped working and the crew had gone back to using spreadsheets. Luckily, the old server was still onboard, so we were able to recover the original database and bring IDEA back into use.

We had quite a bit of work to do at that point. Stock movements hadn't been recorded for several years, so we needed to carry out a full physical stock count to get everything back in line. But having the original database gave us a solid starting point.





Since then, IDEA has become part of how we operate the vessel.

It started mainly within Engineering, where we used it for maintenance and stock control, but over time we have expanded its use into the Deck Department and other areas of the vessel.

How we use IDEA day to day

Planned maintenance

Planned maintenance is obviously a big part of how we use IDEA.

Both Engineering and Deck use the system to manage maintenance tasks and keep track of recurring work.

We have also taken the same principle and used it for some of our administrative responsibilities. If I have something that needs to happen regularly, including payroll-related activities, I can set it up as a recurring task.

It's simple, but it means the task appears when it's due and doesn't get forgotten.

Stock control

Stock control has been another important part of IDEA for us.

We carry out regular checks in our different stock locations so that we know the information in the system is accurate and we can see what spares we have and where they are located.

More recently, we've started using NFC tags within the Deck Department. The deck crew can use their phones to add or remove stock directly from a location, while the first officer still maintains responsibility for the wider department records.

That gives the crew access to what they actually need for their jobs without giving everyone control over the entire database.

Why good historical records matter

One thing I've learnt over the years is just how important it is to keep proper maintenance records and the documentation that goes with them.

We had a situation where historic oil-sampling records were missing. When we reached our five-year survey, we couldn't produce the evidence that was needed and ended up having to remove the shafts.

Experiences like that make you realise the value of keeping good records.

It's not just about ticking off a maintenance task when you've finished the job. You need the history and supporting documentation to still be available years later when somebody asks for it.







Our first experience with IDEA Mobile

We've only recently started properly testing the IDEA Mobile App, so it's still early days for us.

We've started within the Deck Department by installing NFC tags at our stock locations. Crew members can use their phones to record stock coming in or going out while they're actually at the location.

At the moment it looks like it's going to be successful and could be a useful labour-saving tool, but we need to use it for longer before we can really judge the impact.

There are other areas we may look at in the future, including safety inspections.

For me, though, there is an important distinction. A system can tell you that somebody has visited a piece of safety equipment, but that doesn't necessarily mean they've inspected it properly.

The system needs to work alongside good training and clear standards so that the crew understands exactly what they're expected to check.



Looking forward

We've been working with IDEA for a long time, and one of the things I appreciate is that the basic structure remains familiar.

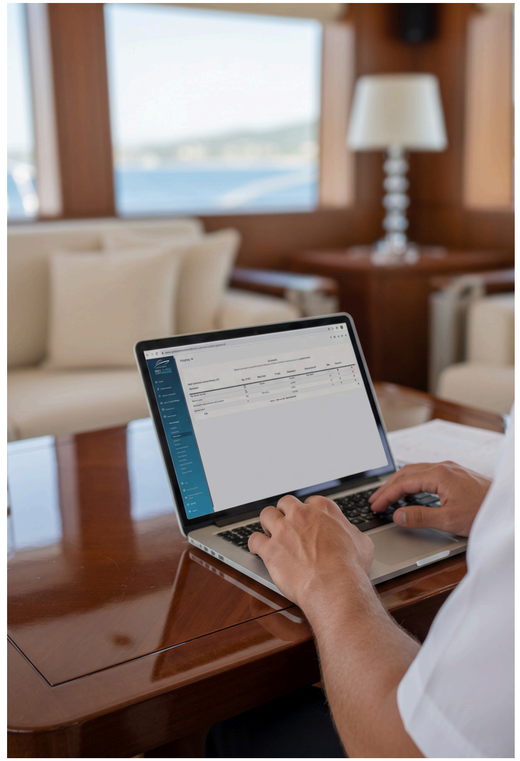
Rather than replacing our system and starting again every few years, we've been able to build on what we already have.

We started with Engineering maintenance and stock control. Since then, we've brought Deck into the system, found ways of using maintenance tasks for recurring administrative responsibilities and are now beginning to explore mobile working and NFC stock management.

For me, that's really what a system like IDEA should do. **It should save us labour, help us keep reliable records and make it easier to stay on top of the things that need to happen onboard.**

"I strongly believe in these kinds of systems. I think anybody who tries to run a boat without them is foolish."

Captain Raymond Heer, MY Moonshadow



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Why IDEA YACHT Makes a Difference Onboard

IDEA YACHT enhances operational oversight with greater clarity, tighter control, and improved confidence. By optimising maintenance management and consolidating critical data, it allows crews to maintain a strong operational focus, ensuring the vessel runs safely, efficiently, and to the highest standards.

With IDEA YACHT, you benefit from:

- **Fewer surprises** thanks to proactive maintenance planning
- **Smarter decision making** through accessible, real-time data
- **Time saved** on admin and reporting tasks
- **Improved collaboration** between departments and shore-based teams
- **Higher operational readiness** with consistent, high-standard upkeep
- **Reduced downtime** and better asset protection through predictive insights

IDEA YACHT isn't just software, it's a smarter way to manage your yacht.

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