

**David H. Smith - Master Mariner and Marine Consultant**

Independent Maritime Consulting LLC  
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**Professional Résumé**

**Senior Marine Consultant and Surveyor of Independent Maritime Consulting LLC (IMC)**

IMC acts as Commercial Correspondents for several major Hull and Machinery (H&M) and Protection & Indemnity (P&I) underwriters, which includes providing claims handling assistance to their assured, performing surveys and investigating casualties of all kinds, mitigating and evaluating damages, assisting in coordinating repairs and providing technical advice. In addition, IMC provides surveys, technical consulting and expert witness services to maritime law firms, vessel Owners, Charterers and their liability underwriters in connection with major casualties, personal injury and cargo claims.

**Qualifications and Associations**

Class 1 UK Master Mariner (Unlimited Tonnage)  
Connecticut Maritime Association  
Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers  
United States Average Adjuster's Association

**Areas of Expertise**

Marine Consultancy and Surveying  
Marine Accident Investigation  
Claims, Disputes & Litigation Support  
Vessel Surveys, Inspections & Audits

**Recent Experience and Work History**

Fifty plus years' experience in the commercial marine industry, and as a recreational boater, during which time I gained extensive knowledge of marine/vessel/boating operations on a variety of commercial cargo vessels and recreational boats. I am regularly appointed by P&I clubs, H&M underwriters, marine brokers, vessel owners/operators and maritime law firms to investigate and report on marine incidents, accidents and casualties all kinds. I have owned and operated recreational sail and power boats since I was 17 years of age.

**Professional Experience:**

1998-Present

**Independent Maritime Consulting LLC – Founder and former President**

Established Independent Maritime Consulting LLC (IMC) in order to provide a wide range of consulting services to the marine industry. IMC act as U.S. commercial correspondents for several Scandinavian Hull and Machinery Underwriters. P&I clubs and their commercial or legal correspondents frequently appoint IMC to investigate casualties, evaluate damages, assist in arranging for repairs, carry out condition surveys, and handle liability and claim matters. Maritime law firms regularly appoint IMC surveyors and marine consultants to act as nautical advisors or expert witnesses in personal injury and major casualty cases of all kinds. As part of my role within IMC I handle a wide variety of claims and casualty situations; conduct investigations and coordinate surveys. I am frequently the first point of contact by IMC's clients.

1997-1998

**HAIGHT GARDNER CONSULTING INC. – PRESIDENT**

Established Haight Gardner Consulting Inc, to serve as U.S commercial claims correspondent for Assuranceforeningen Skuld, a leading Scandinavian P&I club. Responsible for investigating, handling and overseeing several hundred active claim files, assisting and advising Skuld and their shipowner members on a wide variety of problems. In close liaison with Skuld's network of legal correspondents, coordinated strategies with respect to claims in litigation or arbitration.

1990-1997

**SCANDINAVIAN MARINE CLAIMS OFFICE INC. – VICE PRESIDENT**

Scandinavian Marine Claims Office Inc. (SMCO) served as U.S. correspondents for several Scandinavian Hull and Machinery underwriters. They also acted as U.S correspondents for Skuld. As Vice President and Claims Manager, I was responsible for investigating and handling a wide variety of Hull and P&I problems. I was personally involved in dealing with numerous major vessel casualties, in conjunction with SMCO's team of in-house surveyors and sub-agents. I was heavily involved in developing SMCO's oil spill response service, in the wake of EXXON VALDEZ and OPA 90, and in working with the USCG, our shipowner clients and other involved parties in designing and executing realistic spill response exercises on a local or regional basis.

1984-1990

**Lamorte Burns & Co. Inc. Claims Consultant**

Lamorte Burns act as U.S. correspondents for several major P&I clubs, and they represent a number of Japanese H&M underwriters. As a claims consultant, I handled a wide variety of P&I and H&M claims. I was frequently called upon to conduct shipboard investigations and to assist and advise our clients in responding to major casualties. I gained extensive

experience in handling oil spills and in dealing with the USCG and other governmental agencies on spill response and other regulatory violation issues

1969-1984

**SOUTH AFRICAN MARINE CORPS INC. – CHIEF OFFICER**

**REARDON SMITH LINES LTD. – SECOND OFFICER**

**Blue Star Line Ltd. – Second and Third Officer**

**Ocean Fleets Ltd, - Apprentice Deck Officer**

During my fifteen years at sea, primarily in the British Merchant Marine, I served in various capacities, up to Chief Officer, on a wide variety of vessels. I progressed through the ranks, earning my Second Mates, Chief Officers and Master Mariner's licenses, unlimited tonnage. I gained extensive experience on general cargo, refrigerated and container vessels trading in various liner services worldwide. I also sailed on bulk carriers and passenger vessels. As a Chief Officer, I was responsible for overseeing the entire deck department, reporting to the Captain. This included all cargo operations, dealing with stevedores, stability, safety, navigation and maintenance of the vessel.

### **Education**

Between 1969 and 1980 I attended several courses at the City of London Polytechnic College in London, leading to the following professional licenses. I also attended various related courses in Fire Fighting, Radar Observer and Simulator, Lifeboat Handling, Ship Captains Medical Certificate, etc.

Master Mariner's Certificate of Competence – Unlimited Tonnage - 1980 Chief Officer's Certificate of Competence – Unlimited Tonnage - 1976 Second Officer's Certificate of Competence – Unlimited Tonnage - 1973

Between 1968 and 1969 I attended a one-year residential training course at the Merchant Navy College in Kent, England. The course focused heavily on all aspects of seamanship, boat and ship handling, stability, navigation, maritime law, ship's business, and related academic subjects. I also studied and passed exams in advanced mathematics, physics and English. I received a special distinction award for graduating second in my class.

