

Sebastiaan (Bas) Coppes

Bank of America Center
700 Louisiana Street, Suite 3950
Houston, Texas 77002
Cell Phone: + 1 713-898-3317
E-mail: bcoppes@IndependentMaritime.com

Professional Résumé

Senior Marine Surveyor, Gulf region 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

Double Bachelor degree in Nautical and Engineering, Maritime Institute de Ruyter

Maritime Officer all ships

Special Casualty Representative (SCR) appointed by the SCOPIC Committee

Certified Arbitrator and Expert witness, Houston Maritime Arbitrators' Association

Member of the Royal Netherlands Association of technicians in shipping KNVTS

Maritime Expert training, Touw Holding

SMIT Salvage training Managing Marine Emergencies

Dutch citizen / Legal Permanent Resident

Areas of Expertise

Vessel Surveys, Inspections & Audits

Ship repair, dry-docking & new building

Salvage & Wreck removal

Towage & Anchor handling

Offshore installation & decommissioning

On and Offshore Heavy lift & Transport

Marine disasters & hurricane response

Diving (SAT) & ROV Subsea

Subsea pipeline installation

Dredging & Marine construction

Marine Warranty Survey

Oil spill response & Environmental (USCG)

Marine Accident Investigation

Claims, Disputes & Litigation Support

Recent Experience and Work History

Over three decades' experience and extensive knowledge of marine operations on a variety of vessels and cargo types. Started career as a Maritime Officer of the Maritime Institute de Ruijter (MIR) with a double Bachelor degree in Navigation and Engineering. After graduating at MIR spent several years on board the legendary Dutch ocean-going salvage tugs and large hopper dredgers and offshore vessels.

Upon returning to shore, worked for Damen Shiprepair in Rotterdam as a proposal engineer involved in major damage repairs, vessel overhauls, conversions and dealing with variety of vessels.

The inevitable return to sea came in the way of joining SMIT Salvage as a salvage master. In this position was responsible for the successful execution of complex offshore salvage operations around the world.

Joined the new salvage start-up from heavy lift company Mammoet as commercial & project manager. After successfully establishing the Mammoet Salvage was asked to set up Mammoet Salvage Americas Inc, located in Houston.

As president for Mammoet Salvage Americas was responsible for all the salvage and wreck removal cases throughout the Americas from the cradle to the grave and the overall result of the company. Managing multiple projects and operations at the same time.

Joined Global Diving & Salvage, Inc. responsible for the casualty response department in Houston, the international salvage and wreck projects and hurricane recovery response (Harvey, Irma, Michael).

In 2016, started with Marine, Salvage & Offshore consultancy supporting Underwriters, P&I clubs, marine, salvage & offshore companies, NGOs, Ministries, Coastguards and other governmental organizations.

Employment History

Employer : Independent Maritime Consultants LLC
Position : Senior Marine Surveyor
Date : March 2021 to current

Employer : Plan B marine solutions LLC
Position : Director
Date : October 2016 to 2021

Employer : Global Diving & Salvage Inc.
Position : Director Salvage & Wreck removal
Date : January 2017 to April 2019

Employer : Mammoet Salvage Americas Inc.
Position : President
Date : January 2010 to December 2016

Employer : Mammoet Salvage B.V.
Position : Commercial Manager/Project Manager/Salvage Master
Date : January 2007 to January 2010

Employer : SMIT Salvage B.V.
Position : Salvage Master
Date : November 2004 to January 2007

Employer : SMIT Marine Projects B.V.
Position : Marine Operation Manager
Date : February 2006 to May 2006

Employer : Damen Shiprepair Rotterdam BV
Position : Proposal Engineer/ Estimator
Date : 1998 to 2004

Employer : Hollandsche Aannemers Maatschappij (HAM/Van Oord),
Function : Skipper Hopper Dredger & DP Operator
Date : 1996 to 1998

Employer : SMIT International
Function : Maritime Officer (Apprentice)
Date : 1993 to 1994

Major Accomplishments

- Warranty Surveyor for the installation of South Marsh Island 58 platform responsible for approvals of all load outs, towage, offshore installation and pipeline hook ups and Tie-ins.
- Made several hundred plans and estimates for ship repairs and conversions including exchanging Main Engines, lengthening of vessels, Dynamic Positioning conversions, major engine room and steel repairs of all kinds of vessels and offshore rigs.
- In the role as Project Director and overall responsible, removed a capsized sunken submersible rig SSV Jupiter 1 leaning against a major production platform in between live pipelines in the middle of hurricane season. One of the most challenging salvage operation in Mexico ever.
- In the role as Marine Operation Manager installed a Gravity Based Platform de Ruyter (GBS) on the North Sea for Heerema (working for PetroCanada).
- In the role as Salvage Master saved a tilted and unable to jack down, drilling rig High Island II after a Hurricane Rita in the Gulf of Mexico for Global Santa Fe (Transocean) by building a pull barge in devastated Belle Chase shipyard.
- Winning an \$18 million, 4 year-long arbitration in New York over a payment dispute with a pay-out award of \$28 million.
- Presented at American Institute of Marine Underwriters (AIMU), International Transport Management Association (ITMA), Salvage & Wreck (Informa, London) and Wrecks of the World (WoW) conference on salvage, wreck removal, large container vessels and general average.