The PC-based Engine Room Simulator

MER3D

Engine Room Simulator

The UNITEST MER3D Engine Room Simulator has been based on typical solutions, being presently used in medium-sized engine rooms (two, four-stroke type main engines with reduction gear and controllable pitch propeller).

This simulator is designated for training students of maritime academies as well as for different types of marine vocational training centers. The simulator has universal features and may be used both for training merchant and navy fleet crew.

The main purpose of the simulator is the practical preparation of the trainee for engine room operation, and more particularly:

- familiarization with the basic engine room installation (compressed air system, fresh and sea water cooling system, lubricating and fuel oil system, gear and CPP hydraulic system);

- acknowledgment with main engines and auxiliary equipment starting procedure;
- propulsion system maneuvering (main engines – reduction gear – CPP);
MER3D has been developed to comply with:

- STCW Code: Section A-1/12 and Section B-1/12.
- ISM Code: Section 6 and Section 8.

The MER3D simulator is based on an engine room composed of two medium speed diesel ME and two diesel engine generators.

The propulsion system includes two ME, driving through reduction gear the controllable pitch propeller (CPP). Propeller’s revolutions and pitch are controlled simultaneously.

The simulator introduces 3D model of the Engine Room, based on the real equipment. In order to create the impression of working in the real environment, it provides 3D sound which can be listened on 2, 4 or more speakers.
MER3D simulator model includes following systems:

- Fuel System
- Cooling & Fire System
- Lubricating System
- Compressed Air System
- Power Plant
- Emergency Generator
- Sanitary Water System
- Bilge System
- Steering Gear
- Sewage Treatment Plant
- Air Conditioning Plant
- Water Mist System
- CO2 System
- Reverse osmosis system
- Hot water boiler
- Refrigerating Plant

The simulator introduces 3D model of the Engine Room, based on the real equipment. The 3D model includes very realistic, animated, virtual controls like switches, gauges and lamps.

Electric Power Plant is equipped with modern Power Management System which enables automatic control of generators according to actual power demand.
The mimic diagram provides possibility to zoom in the selected part of the engine room.

Control room allows remote control of engine room equipment from computers.
The control panels have to imitate the most important parts of the control room equipment.

Zoom technique allows navigation in 3D environment and easy access to details.

Here is a list of **MER3D** main features:

- MER3D is a highly realistic simulator for ship’s engine room training which can also be used as a low cost introductory simulator.

- The mathematical model simulates a typical ship’s engine room with two 2-stroke, medium speed engines, driving through reduction gear the controllable pitch propeller.

- All vital auxiliary systems have been implemented.

- The user interface includes virtual controls and alarms and creates very realistic environment.

- The 3D virtual reality with active valves, tank level indicators and selected digital gauges enable comfortable engine room operation and monitoring.
▪ Multichannel digitized sound provides a very realistic ships’ engine room feel. The sound effects include: engine sound correlated with engine speed, the sound of a diesel generator starting and running, open indicator valve sound, alarm and machine telegraph buzzers.

▪ Emergency procedure training including fire simulations

The main educational tasks which can be accomplished using MER3D have been listed below:

▪ Learning ship’s engine room typical operating routines.

▪ Ship's engine room operation training. The user will have the possibility to accomplish any operational task starting from different setups, both pre-prepared and saved by a user.

▪ Corrective action learning when faults occur. Different faults can be simulated and mixed in the run-time or loaded from disk.