

Bachelor of Shipping and Finance

Industry Prospective

More than 40 per cent of Norwegians live less than 10 kilometres from the sea. No wonder Norway is a shipping nation, has been for a long time and will be for many years to come.



Taking a global position in a global industry

The last year has been dominated by the recession. However, maritime transportation is one of few services that will also experience growth in the future, says Per Olaf Brett, Deputy Managing Director in Ulstein International AS.

The Ulstein Group is a leading, global maritime company headquartered on an island in Ulsteinvik, close to Ålesund, Norway. The Ulstein Group's CEO is the granddaughter of the founder, Gunvor Ulstein, and international business has expanded substantially since it was established 92 years ago.

The company has the world as its market and is respected for its expertise within ship design, shipbuilding, ship systems integration and ship investments. One of the latest achievements that caught the attention of the global shipping industry is the X-BOW concept, improving the heavy weather performance of ships, reducing ship motions, increasing safety environmental friendliness and fuel efficiency. Time is money, also at sea.

Operational and abstract

A Bachelor of Shipping and Finance is a great platform for operative functions responsible for market and technical operations. Employees with this competence are important in the process of commercialising logistics, transport and shipping services, Brett says.

It has been a tradition that maritime personnel have gone ashore and filled operational and technical positions. – -Shipping has a more “hands-on” tradition and approach. We definitely also need the abstract and analytic on board and at sea.

A Bachelor of Shipping and Finance should develop the necessary analytic skills and training in conceptual thinking. – In a global and growing business like this people who can see things with a more abstract view and influence the development of maritime products and services are in demand.

With a global view

Many business people underestimate the value of international experience, knowledge of other cultures, codes and languages, says Brett calling in from the Ulstein Groups design site-office Ulstein Es-Cad in Istanbul, Turkey. This international operation of the Ulstein Group delivers ship design and services to shipowners and cargo owners within the short sea shipping segments globally. – When developing business in other countries, English is not enough. If you do business in Turkey, you have to know Turkish, says Per Olaf Brett. – Doing business abroad demands cultural understanding, combined with the ability of conceptual and strategic thinking. Shipping is a global business and you need a global mind.

Asia – King of Exports

Norway has a significant position within the international shipping. – The maritime sector is dynamic and will grow. The main points of maritime export have been in the US and Europe. Now this is turning towards Asia, especially China and India.

The global changes demand even stronger internationalisation and professionalism in the export business sector. The traditional centres of trade are shifting towards new domains. Therefore businesses need extended knowledge and new approaches.– The timing for a Bachelor of Shipping and Finance should therefore be perfect.