

## **... and the traditional**

Despite the introduction of sophisticated condition monitoring software, though, the core of the marine safety system remains in the hands of the surveyors themselves. Carrying out a high quality, accurate and in depth survey, and ensuring that all the information from that survey is presented in a clear and accessible manner are very different things, however. A recent book from Mike Wall, an experienced marine surveyor and lecturer in maritime studies, aims to help fill what he believes is a big gap in the information needs of marine surveyors around the world, in particular those who are new to the profession. "While it is necessary for surveyors to possess sound technical knowledge it is certain that without an ability to adequately convey their findings in the reports, and sometimes also opinions, they will never become competent and respected surveyors," the foreword emphasizes, and the book concentrates on helping surveyors identify and achieve these skills.

*Report Writing for Marine Surveyors* contains a range of diagrams and charts which are designed to illustrate every aspect of the marine surveying process likely to be encountered. It includes a variety of different types of report format – covering many of the types of report which the surveyor may be requested to complete, from special survey to evaluation – in the appendices as templates, which may be used by new surveyors. It includes specific sections on discovery, evidence, protocols, terms and conditions of service, insurance, limiting liability and copyright issues. In preparing for a report, the surveyor also learns about interviewing skills, together with when to report facts and when to offer opinions. According to the author, the book should be of particular value to new entrants to the industry for whom writing detailed, accurate and concise survey reports is an essential job requirement.

*Report Writing for Marine Surveyors*

*Mike Wall*

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