



# *SIRE 2.0: A New Era in Maritime Inspections – A Senior Master’s Perspective*

## *Understanding the Depth of SIRE 2.0 Inspections*

*This week, I completed a SIRE 2.0 inspection on a gas carrier, and it’s evident that this new system is reshaping the way we approach vetting and compliance in the maritime industry. For those unfamiliar, SIRE 2.0, overseen by OCIMF (Oil Companies International Marine Forum), marks a significant shift from traditional inspection protocols, driven largely by pre-vetting information provided by both the operator and the ship.*

### *The Pre-Vetting Stage*

*The foundation of SIRE 2.0 lies in the pre-vetting information submitted prior to inspections. Operators now provide a Pre-Inspection Questionnaire (PIQ) that includes vessel photos at fixed angles and locations as specified by OCIMF. This is more than just a formality. The PIQ becomes a crucial document, detailing the company’s policies and their implementation on board.*

*For example, if the PIQ states that all officers are trained in liquid cargo handling simulators, the OCIMF software flags this, ensuring the inspector verifies its implementation. Additionally, the vessel’s HVPQ (Harmonised Vessel Particulars Questionnaire) is updated and submitted to the operator at least three days prior to the inspection.*

## ***AI-Driven Inspections***

*SIRE 2.0 employs artificial intelligence to generate checklists for inspectors. Once onboard, the inspector syncs their tablet to the ship's Wi-Fi and begins the inspection process. The inspection, which spans approximately 8 hours, focuses on three critical aspects for each area:*

- 1. Process: Is there a procedure in place?*
- 2. Machinery: Are there any machinery defects?*
- 3. Human Factor: Are the crew following company procedures?*

*This method ensures a comprehensive review, targeting potential loopholes from previous inspections. Any shortcoming can result in observations across all three categories, providing a more robust inspection process.*



## ***The Inspector's Experience***

*From conversations with inspectors, it's clear that the questions they receive from the OCIMF software can sometimes be tricky and are unique to each vessel and inspector. The first SIRE 2.0 inspection serves as a base, influencing the questions and focus areas of future inspections.*

*For inspectors, having a pre-determined checklist simplifies the process, but it also increases scrutiny, as the OCIMF closely monitors their performance. Inspectors have the right to stop or abort the inspection if necessary, giving them more authority but also increasing accountability.*

## ***What It Means for Operators***

*SIRE 2.0 is designed to address loopholes that some management companies may have exploited in the past. The detailed nature of these inspections means that companies will need to focus more on compliance and consistency in their operations, particularly in areas related to crew training, machinery maintenance, and procedural adherence.*



### ***From Experience master to the world:***

*SIRE 2.0 is undoubtedly here to stay, and it's poised to transform the inspection landscape. Operators must stay ahead by ensuring their policies and procedures are not just in place but actively followed on board.*



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