e-Maritime + e-Navigation

How can e-navigation contribute to the development of e-Maritime and vice versa?

**e-navigation in a nutshell**

E-navigation is the harmonized collection, integration, exchange, presentation and analysis of marine information on board and ashore by electronic means to enhance berth to berth navigation and related services for safety and security at sea and protection of the marine environment. E-navigation is intended to meet present and future user needs through harmonization of marine navigation systems and supporting shore services. (MSC 85/26 add.1, annex 20)

E-navigation is a concept to support and improve decision-making through maritime information management and it aims to:

- Facilitate the safe and secure navigation of vessels by improved traffic management, and through the promotion of better standards for safe navigation.
- Improve the protection of the marine and coastal environment from pollution.
- Enable higher efficiency and reduced costs in transport and logistics.
- Improve contingency response, and search and rescue services.
- Enhance management and usability of information onboard and ashore to support effective decision making, and to optimize the level of administrative workload for the mariner.

E-navigation aims to provide digital information for the benefit of maritime safety, security and protection of the environment, reducing the administrative burden and increasing the efficiency of maritime trade and transport.

**e-Maritime**

Europe's e-Maritime focuses primarily on the shore-based facilitation and on the development of electronic technology, processes and services to facilitate the flow of goods over sea – and consequently the ships that carry these goods – to, from and around Europe. The European Commission intends to develop applications for administrations, ship operations, ports/terminals, transport logistics and improving life at sea and promoting seafaring. (NAV56/20 paragraph 8.10)

At NAV 57 the observer from the European Commission (EC) was of the view that if the main aim of e-navigation was to enhance the navigation capabilities of a ship without compromising its efficiency, e-Maritime aimed to increase its profitability without compromising its safety. Due to the cooperation of the European partners involved, close coordination had been established between the two initiatives. The EU e-Maritime initiative supported the deployment of e-navigation services in Europe, while e-navigation provided a global perspective for the EU initiative. (NAV 57/15 paragraph 6.24)

EUs e-Maritime and IMOs e-navigation both make use of the same electronic technology, processes and service, and the European Commission wants to make use of those being developed by IMO for e-navigation wherever possible in the e-Maritime concept development. (NAV 56/20 paragraph 8.10)

In summary the e-Maritime initiative aims at optimizing maritime related processes and reducing the administrative burden. This will be done by identifying existing practices and regulations and by proposing improvements and simplifications deriving from use of electronic systems and information.

**Commonalities**

Based on the above mentioned similarities and differences between e-navigation and e-Maritime, there are some important questions that could be raised by the e-Maritime Forum:

- What could be the common synergies and benefits for e-navigation and e-maritime?
- Should EU consider adopting e-navigation solutions at an early stage?
- What support could be given from EU to facilitate the implementation of e-navigation?
o using IHO S-100 as the common Data Standard for information exchange?

o leading the development on automated ship reporting (further develop SafeSeaNet / Single Window)?

o further development of e-navigation shore based Maritime Service Portfolio (digital information services to ships such as update of chart, weather, port, safety etc.)?

o initializing EU R&D projects on developing viable and functional e-navigation / e-Maritime models?

As the two projects are of similar nature, it is important that close cooperation is maintained between IMO and Europe. Both bodies are very important for the benefit for optimizing maritime related processes and reducing the administrative burden.