

NG-Marine



CAPTAIN NEIL GARDINER

BSc (Hons), AFNI, HCMM

CONSULTANT MASTER MARINER

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Neil Gardiner is a Master Mariner with a BSc (Hons) degree in Marine Technology and Maritime Law. He established NG-MARINE in September 2023 after leaving a leading UK-based Marine Consultancy after 11½ years. Previously, Neil appointed as a Director Thomas Miller (Management Services) Ltd (2/2018 to 9/2023), Ship Inspector for a leading P&I Club and investigated casualties for another UK-based Marine Consultancy for 6½ years. He served on a variety of vessel types, including container vessels, refrigerated cargo vessels and high-speed ferries; he sailed as Master for nearly 7 years.

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

UK Class 1 Master Mariner foreign-going,
LR ISM Internal Auditor course
SDT/IMCS Ultrasonic Hatch Cover Testing course
Nautical Institute Navigation Assessor course
RYA Yachtmaster – Offshore, commercially endorsed

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

BSc (Hons) in Marine Technology and Maritime Law
HND in Nautical Science

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Associate Fellow of the Nautical Institute
Freeman of the Honourable Company of Master Mariners

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Brookes Bell: Managing Master Mariner

Neil was based in Shanghai for nearly 5 years, conducting various casualty investigations – cargo loss and/or damage, groundings, collisions, fires, personal injury, pollution, etc. He frequently advised Owners, assisting with the supervision of the loading of various steel product cargoes, and cargo interests with the loading of a series of trains for Australia and the loading of various project / heavy lift cargoes.

On his return to the UK, Neil continued with various casualty investigations, speed and consumption assessments, Hong Kong Flag State Quality Inspections, groundings, collisions, container loss incidents, personal injury cases, etc. He has been involved with the investigation of a number of drug and migrant crossing cases.

UK P&I Club: Ship Inspector

Working for the Loss Prevention department, inspecting the Club's entered vessels and producing risk profiles of those vessels using Bowtie software. Assisted with other Loss Prevention initiatives.

OOCL: Master

Sailing on ice-classed Panamax container vessels, primarily trading between N. Europe and Montreal.

TMC (Marine Consultants): Consultant/Surveyor

Investigating and advising on various claims issues, including collision, grounding, salvage, fire/explosion, personal injury, port safety disputes, pollution, speed and performance, hull damage, crane damage, aspects of the ISM Code and various cargo-related matters including containerised cargoes – losses/damage, lashing systems, planning and stowage, bagged/bulk claims, breakbulk, refrigerated, RoRo, etc.

While working for TMC, Neil was invited to the UK P&I Club's Carefully to Carry Committee, sitting on the Container and Dangerous goods sub-committees, advising the Club's members on various cargo claim-related issues, and had 2 articles on container stowage and securing published in Carefully to Carry Bulletins.

SURVEYING AND CONSULTANCY EXPERIENCE

Neil has acted as expert witness in the High Court, the Admiralty Court, Coroner's Court, arbitration and mediation in the UK and abroad. He has prepared technical advice and expert reports for commercial litigation with respect to the following issues:

Damage to and/or loss of:

- Containerised cargoes, including planning, segregation, stowage and securing.
- Ro-Ro, bagged and bulk cargoes.
- Breakbulk, heavy lift and project cargoes.
- Refrigerated cargoes.

Other claims:

- Navigation issues (including ice navigation), collision and ColRegs analysis.
- Grounding and wreck removal.
- Fire and explosion, personal injury.
- Hatch cover testing and inspections.
- Port safety disputes, pollution.
- Hull, dock and crane damage.
- ISM issues.
- Flag State SQE Inspections.
- Vessel performance disputes.