

E-Catch, produced by fishermen, for fishermen!

Electronic Logbook for the Fishing Industry

First we would like to introduce ourselves. Our Company, E-Catch has developed Electronic logbook software for use on fishing vessels. Originally we received the order to build such software from the board of a fish auction. This fish auction is owned by fishermen. Our mission is to develop software that is user (fishermen)-friendly and as cost-effective as possible.

Next to that it had to be platform independent. Our software can be used on any PC based platform and works with any communication device on board of fishing vessels, indeed most of the communication devices that are already on board can be used with our software, so for a lot of fishermen there is no need to invest in new communication hardware.

We also have experience with and knowledge of almost every communication method used on vessels so we can also be used as independent and objective consultants regarding communication issues.

Since our origin lies in fisheries and our main office is in a well known Dutch fishing Community, it is obvious that we feel a strong affinity with the fishing industry. In fact members of our team themselves are ex-fishermen!

Currently we are active in several countries. Our software is modular designed and we strive to keep the user interface as uniform as possible between different regions to optimize the usability.

E-Catch was developed in close cooperation with the practice itself. By means of trials and tests, in cooperation with the governments a new product was created which adheres to the standards and rules set by the government. An excellent balance has been made between functionality and user friendliness.

We believe that the advantages in platform and communication independency, as well as ease of use and cost-effectiveness can be very valuable for fishermen.

Modular

E-Catch is a programme built in a modular package. This means that the basic version adheres to all government requirements. Aside from this the user can get extra updates in the form of modules which, for instance, have a weighing system expansion or quota management. In the future, more modules will be created so customers can customize their product according to their wishes.

The E-Logbook developed by E-CATCH is fully compliant with the EU specification. In addition, E-Catch is fully adaptable to regional specifications, the messages which E-Catch produce have been tested against EU specifications for content, correctness and completeness. E-CATCH has been developed and created in multiple languages.

A big advantage of the E-Catch logbook is the fact that data which is the same every week can be filled in automatically from the favourites section in the programme. These favourites, like docking sites, fishing gear, maze width and so forth, are added to the programme during or after installation once and are then saved in the configuration. Even the weekly fish species are pre-selected and will automatically be shown when the catch is to be registered.

The programme rests on the principle that only things which need to be altered can be done by the captain in minimal time. This has the advantage that the programme demands very little time and attention from the captain.

Aside from the requirements certain parts of the programme were added because they increase the value of working with E-Catch. For instance, the programme gives an estimate of the worth of the caught fish during the trip. If one were to fill in the prices of different fish species, one has insight into the worth of every haul, and towards the end of the trip they have a good idea of what the total worth is going to be. For ships equipped with a weighing system there is a coupling which allows the weighing data to be read and worked with by E-Catch.

Finally, the E-Catch logbook can communicate with the software used by auction houses. This offers the possibility that these auctions can, if so permitted, send the docking messages with the sold catch and other information automatically to other party's like Fish producer organisations P.O. This prevents unjust fines and in-correctness due to possible mistakes made with filling out forms and it saves time and sending costs.

Customer support and project management

We have a very good reputation when it comes to customer support and project management. We also have extensive experience in assisting governments and organizations in their Implementation of projects, we also work closely with integrators and other suppliers. Because we are familiar with the fishermen, we speak the language and understand the daily (and nightly) routine and the problems they face they just want a program that works! Not only do we organize user meetings and course events we also have 24hr7 day support number available.

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