Marine Search and Rescue Operations: Techniques & Methods

4 – 8 January 2027
Vienna (Austria)



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Why This Course

Effective marine search and rescue SAR operations save lives. This intensive 1-week program equips participants with the knowledge, skills, and practical experience needed to plan, coordinate, and execute successful SAR missions. Combining theory with hands-on exercises, the course ensures professionals are prepared for real-world challenges in maritime rescue environments.

What You'll Learn and Practice

By attending this course, you will be able to:

- Plan and coordinate complex marine SAR operations efficiently.
- Apply advanced search patterns and rescue techniques.
- Operate specialized SAR equipment, including radar, sonar, GPS, and thermal imaging tools.
- Communicate effectively and lead teams during high-pressure SAR missions.
- Understand legal, safety, and interagency considerations in marine rescue operations.

The Program Flow

Day 1: Fundamentals of Marine SAR

- Introduction to marine SAR principles
- Mission planning and coordination strategies
- Understanding and applying search patterns
- Communication protocols in SAR operations

Day 2: Search Techniques and Technology

- Advanced search patterns and tactical approaches
- Using marine radar and sonar for effective searches
- GPS and navigation systems in SAR missions
- Thermal imaging and night vision technology



Day 3: Rescue Methods and Equipment

- Water rescue techniques for various scenarios
- Operation of rescue boats and personal watercraft
- Helicopter-based rescue operations
- Specialized rescue equipment and applications

Day 4: Medical Aspects and Victim Care

- First aid and CPR tailored for marine environments
- Hypothermia prevention, recognition, and treatment
- Psychological support for victims during rescue
- Safe extraction and transportation of casualties

Day 5: Legal Considerations and Scenario Training

- Legal frameworks governing marine SAR operations
- Safety protocols and risk management
- Interagency cooperation and coordination
- Practical scenario-based exercises for real-life readiness

Individual Impact

Participants will leave this course with:

- The ability to plan, coordinate, and execute effective marine SAR operations.
- Hands-on proficiency with advanced SAR technology and equipment.
- Enhanced skills in water rescue, victim care, and emergency medical response.
- Improved decision-making and leadership capabilities in high-pressure situations.

Organizational Impact

Organizations will benefit from:

- Highly trained personnel capable of leading SAR missions efficiently.
- Enhanced operational readiness and response times.
- Improved safety and compliance with maritime rescue regulations.
- Strengthened collaboration with external agencies and stakeholders.



Training Methodology

- Interactive lectures and practical demonstrations
- Hands-on exercises using SAR equipment and technology
- Scenario-based simulations to replicate real-world operations
- Group discussions and debriefs to reinforce best practices

Beyond the Course

By the end of this 1-week program, participants will be ready to:

- Conduct SAR operations confidently in diverse maritime conditions.
- Utilize advanced technology and equipment to improve mission success.
- Apply medical and psychological care techniques for rescued individuals.
- Lead teams effectively during emergencies and complex rescue scenarios.

