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**Subject:** 2019 Abstract submitted Form  
**Date:** May 3, 2019 at 10:37 AM  
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Presentation Title : Autonomy in DP Operations

Abstract: The maritime industry is undergoing a fundamental change through the integration of digital technologies with existing machinery, increased inter-connectivity between equipment, and robust communications for sea-going vessels. These technology enablers in conjunction with developments in the fields of machine learning and machine vision, advanced sensing and sensor fusion, and autonomy engines, allow for increased autonomy of ship systems and operations. As these ship systems become smarter, they will have a significant impact on the entire performance of the value-chain across maritime sectors.

This paper starts with a discussion of the technology enablers that will drive both the digitalization of the maritime industry and allow for autonomous operations. We present cases to highlight the varying degrees of autonomy and the distinctions between autonomous and unmanned operations. When discussing autonomy, it is also important to understand that there is a shore-side aspect that is integral to the success of these operations. Vessels, and the operations that they perform, are not isolated from the larger context that they exist in and so we will discuss Shore Control Centers and their role in autonomy.

This paper is intended to be an introduction to autonomy and the impact of these technologies in the context of DP Operations.

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