



# EXAMINER'S REPORT

## MAY 2018

**Subject: Port and Terminal**

**Examiner: John Watt**

### Overall Comments Guidelines

The overall standard for the Port and Terminal examination in May 2018 was of a reasonably high standard. Out of the overall 36 papers marked 24 achieved a pass mark and there were 12 papers which failed to achieve a pass mark.

### Overall Comments

The questions were chosen from a wide range of subjects within the syllabus. Port operations, management ratios, developments in the container industry, port competition, health and safety and port related abbreviations.

### **Q1. There have been significant levels of consolidation in the container market over the past twelve months. Discuss the changes and implications for a port of your choice.**

The question on consolidation in the container industry and the affects that it had on ports was modestly handled at best. The majority of answers struggled to display any awareness of some of the important mergers in the container trades, which was particularly disappointing given their high profile in the shipping press. Students were able to generally discuss the concept that deep sea container vessels continue to grow in size and this may be detrimental to some of the more medium sized ports, and be beneficial to the larger ports. However pointing out that this may cause issues such as congestion and delayed turnaround time.

### **Q2. Using a port of your choice and utilising recognised terms associated with such areas, give examples of where industrial and economic development can be encouraged.**

This question looked for the student to reference specific legislative examples of port related economical developments such as Free Ports or MIDAS.

Some answers included working examples of the aforementioned, and those students scored heavily. The majority of students tended to display a more generic level of knowledge which broached localised governmental incentives and assistance.

**Q3. Discuss FOUR of the following abbreviations**

- 1) ISPS
- 2) VTS
- 3) RMG
- 4) ISM
- 5) RTG

The question on abbreviations was generally well answered in this exam. Most students who attempted this question answered it well.

**Q4. Discuss the activities which would normally be the responsibility of the marine department of a port authority.**

The question on the day to day operations of the marine department of a Port Authority was well answered. The majority of students could define the salient responsibilities of the marine department as one which maintained a high level of safe navigation in its jurisdiction and offered services such as dredging, towage, pilotage, survey and conservancy, to ensure that safe entry and egress to and from the port was available at all times.

**Q5. Using a port of your choice discuss the security risk associated with the port and name relevant legislation in place to assist the port in addressing these issues.**

The question on security issues and how port authorities' deal with this issue effectively was well handled, and a number of students achieved a high mark when answering this question.

Students displayed concerns about smuggling, theft, drugs and piracy in their ports. And then displayed a number of solutions both statute such as ISPS legislation and more localised security initiatives which sought to address the security concerns.

**Q6. Using the world map provided show the major load and discharge ports associated in the global lumber trade and discuss the dimensions and tonnages of the main types of vessel involved in this trade.**

The geographical question was generally well handled with students able to describe the type of vessels involved in the carriage of the global lumber trade, and the major trade routes. The majority of students could pin point the USA and Canada as major exporters, as well as New Zealand, Indonesia and Brazil. However for some reason the Scandinavian countries appeared to have been overlooked.

**Q7. Using examples to support your answer, discuss the various forms of port competition.**

The question on port competition created a diversity of answers; either students were familiar with the concept and could introduce: horizontal, vertical, perfect, imperfect and segmented types of competition within their answer. Or alternatively students gave a very generic type of answer excluding the above which failed to achieve a pass mark.

**Q8. You are the berth manager at a general cargo terminal. Discuss some of the specific management ratios you would use to assess performance.**

Students were able to demonstrate a depth of knowledge on berth management ratios, and were able to include a number of examples within their answer such as: - Berth throughput, Berth occupancy, berth working times.