

Kevin Vallance began his seagoing career, at the age of 16 years, with Shaw Savill and Albion Company Limited. After completion of his deck officer cadetship at Warsash School of Navigation he was employed as second mate with South Coast shipping Company, working on marine aggregate suction dredgers.

In 1986, aged 28 years and after obtaining a Limited European Trade command endorsement at South Tyneside College, he was promoted to Master with that company, a role he held for 19 years.

At the age of 45 Kevin returned to South Tyneside to complete his Masters foreign going unlimited certificate of competency. It was during the periods of shore study that he started to be concerned about standards of seagoing watchkeeping, in particular Colregs understanding and application. This eventually led to the book 'Rule 10 TSS' being published by Witherby Seamanship International.

In 2006 he qualified to be a Trinity House Deep Sea Pilot, working with George Hammond Shipping of Dover. On accepting this position Kevin joined the UKMPA. He was elected to become a Younger Brother of Trinity House, Hull in 2008.

Kevin was elected onto the technical and training committee of the UKMPA in 2009, and represented them at various safety related events during his 5 year tenure.

Since taking semi-retirement Kevin continues to be interested in safety related matters and his written work is regularly produced in a number of industry publications.

Currently Kevin is very involved with trying to improve Pilot Transfer Arrangements. It is anticipated that his latest book 'The Pilot Ladder Manual' will be published later this year.