

Case Study

Chilean Navy

VT Flagship designs and delivers bespoke training programme for first Type 23 Frigate crew



The Client

Twenty-two thousand personnel serve within the Chilean Navy, operating and maintaining a fleet of 66 surface vessels and four submarines.

In 2006, the Chilean Navy purchased three former Royal Navy Type 23 Frigates, HMS Norfolk, HMS Grafton and HMS Marlborough, to expand and develop their Naval force.

The Challenge

To train the crews to man these three refurbished Frigates, the Chilean Navy required a tailored training programme capable of accommodating over 500 Armada de Chile personnel over a three year period.

As a leading training solutions provider, VT Flagship was selected to design, deliver and manage this total training package, working closely with our Royal Navy colleagues.

Our integrated programme combined shore-based equipment and practical on-board sea training for the crews of the three ships - the Almirante Cochrane, Almirante Lynch and Almirante Condell.

The training programme for the first ship, Almirante Cochrane, started in January 2006 and was successfully completed in spring 2007.

“The VT Flagship team has been invaluable, their training has given me confidence in my Ship’s Company’s ability... I would very much like them to develop my future warfare capability.”

**Captain Julio Leiva - Commanding Officer
Almirante Cochrane**



How VT Flagship Helped

- VT Flagship designed a tailored training programme, which integrated classroom based and practical sea training. The training was delivered by both VT Flagship and Royal Navy (RN) instructors
- Through our unique partnering arrangement with the RN, we enabled the Chilean Navy to access the RN’s standard training courses and specialised training facilities, so they could benefit from the Navy’s renowned training pedigree
- Our Projects training team, with a combined 400 years of RN experience, then delivered an on-board crew training programme, tailored to meet the exact requirements of the Chilean Navy
- This extensive programme, which also met the RN’s own demanding standards, consisted of three stages - duty watch, pre-sea and sea training - which enabled the 200 strong crew to operate the ship’s equipment, live on board and safely go to sea
- To ensure that VT Flagship’s training adequately prepared the crew to meet the RN’s rigorous Flag Officer Sea Training (FOST) assessments, our team worked closely with FOST personnel during their initial safety and readiness checks to further refine and enhance our training
- Our combined knowledge and expertise helped us to successfully train the first ship’s crew in just 33 on-board training days

The End Result

- Throughout the year long training programme, the first crew’s knowledge, confidence and working relationships grew and they have now become a cohesive and effective team
- The Almirante Cochrane’s crew successfully completed their training programme and passed the required FOST assessments in April 2007
- Delighted by the success of the first crew, the Chilean Navy continued their training relationship with VT Flagship. The training programme for the second ship is currently underway and the third ship’s crew is expected to complete their programme in mid 2008
- As a result of this programme, we have established an increasingly close relationship with the FOST organisation, which has enabled a seamless transition between VT Flagship and FOST delivered modules, optimising the effectiveness of the overall training programme