

**Clarification Note from The Nautical Institute – Guidance to Masters and DPOs**

The NI DP sea time days allow for many different DP vessel types and operations. The Standard specifies the minimum number of hours that must be completed to count as a DP day. If the ship and trainee DPO is *engaged in DP operations* for a minimum of 2 hours in the day then a day may be claimed.

The purpose of this advisory note is to give guidance on what should be included when determining whether or not the time counts as ‘engaged in DP operations’.

**The following activities can legitimately be used towards a DP sea time day:**

- Time on watch as a member of the DP watch
- Using the DP system to control the ship
- Preparing, planning and setting up on DP
- Completing training task sections combined with DP operations
- Conduct and participation in formal trials including:
  - FMEA trials
  - Annual trials
  - Class trials
  - Charterer trials
  - Field arrival trials
  - DP proving trials
- Using joystick (DP or IJS) to control the position of the vessel
- Emergency ship handling training using manual controls to maintain position.

When 2 DPOs are on watch together, each is eligible to claim the watchkeeping time.

In circumstances where more than 2 DPOs are required on an operational watch the Master should make appropriate logbook remarks to explain the circumstances.

Masters can use monitoring or being a part of DP watch towards a DP sea time day for their own record of experience for revalidation but should be part of the DP watch to accumulate experience for initial certification.

DP sea time cannot be counted in any circumstances when using the DP auto pilot mode.

*Please Note: The time on board a vessel with the classification of POSITION MOORING or THRUSTER-ASSISTED MOORING (TAM) and DP class notation can be counted as DP sea time for initial DP training. The Nautical Institute will require the candidate to present evidences that the anchors were not deployed for the DP sea time claimed during DP operations when applying for a DP certificate.*