

Gerald (Gerry) Nielsen

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Maritime and Offshore Industry Professional

Project Management - Audit - Expert Witness - Legal Consulting - Survey

PROFILE

Accomplished Maritime and Offshore Industry Project Manager with broad experience in Operations, Asset Integrity, Compliance, Auditing, and Survey. Owner of Ocean Ridge Maritime Consulting LLC providing services in the areas of Expert Witness and Legal Consulting, Rig Assurance and Commissioning, Survey, Compliance Audits, Regulatory Compliance, System Audits, Rig Intake Management, Maintenance System Selection, Project Scope Development, and Audit/Risk Management.

Key areas of expertise:

- Project Management (PMI certified PMP)
- Marine Survey and Audit
- Commissioning and "Ready To Operate" (RTO)
- Marine and Offshore Assurance
- Expert Witness Consulting
- Litigation Support
- Regulatory Compliance
- Asset Integrity

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Ocean Ridge Maritime Consulting LLC

2009 - Present

2009 – Present

Founder / Owner

Providing Expert Witness, Surveying and Auditing, Consulting, and Project Management services to Marine and Offshore companies globally. Ocean Ridge Maritime offers expertise for short and long term engagements in the areas of Expert Witness and Legal Consulting, Project Management, Marine Surveying and Auditing, and Emergency Response. Recent assignments have included Expert Witness Consulting, MODU Intake Surveys, MODU and Ship Lay-Up Planning and Execution, Engineering Manager for BP MC252 Vessel Demobilization and Re-Delivery Team, ECP Compliance Audits, Marine Surveys, "Ready To Operate" (RTO) Program Development, Pre-Shipyard Surveys, and Documentation Reviews.

Transocean Offshore Drilling, Houston, TX

2011 - 2020

2011 – 2020

Marine Assurance Team Lead

All aspects of Rig Stacking and Reactivations including managing the preservation projects and preparing rigs for reactivation. Project Management including Commissioning, "Ready To Operate", and Integrated Acceptance Testing for Offshore Assets completing major overhauls and upgrades.

ABS Nautical Systems, Houston, TX

2002 - 2009

ABS Nautical Systems is a global provider of management system solutions and associated consulting services to the maritime and offshore industry and is a division of ABS, a global provider of marine and offshore services.

2002 – 2009

Vice President Global Operations

Recruited by ABS Nautical Systems President to lead the company's operations through a period of rapid expansion and growth. In addition to operations-related duties, assigned program manager responsibilities for Government contracts; led merger and acquisition teams; recruited staff globally for new and existing offices; supported corporate operations and strategic planning.

Carnival Corporation, Miami, FL**1997-2002**

Carnival Corporation is the largest cruise company in the world with a portfolio of leading cruise brands and tour companies.

1997 – 2002

Director of Maritime Audit, Carnival Corporation

Hired based on criteria of having an advanced USCG Marine Engineers License and ISM Auditor certification in addition to experience as a Classification Society Marine Surveyor. Created and executed annual audit programs for corporate functions and subsidiary cruise lines. Led and participated in audit teams addressing regulatory, financial, and business practice reviews. Subject matter expert for regulatory compliance including ISM Code, MARPOL, SOLAS, United States Public Health and emerging regulations. Actively participated with Cruise Lines Industry Association CLIA on their Safety, Environmental, and Technical committees.

1999 – 2001

Director of Safety and Environmental Management, Cunard Line Ltd.

Appointed to a newly created wholly owned subsidiary cruise company to establish and lead the Safety and Environmental functions. Successfully created and implemented an ISM compliant Safety Management System that covered two cruise lines operating international itineraries under multiple flag states and Classification Societies. Assigned role of Designated Person with direct reporting line to President.

ABS Americas, Houston, TX**1992-1997**

ABS Americas is an operating division of ABS, a global provider of marine and offshore classification services.

1995 – 1997

ISM Auditor and Marine Surveyor

As one of the first ISM Auditors certified by ABS, performed initial and interim audits on vessels and in shoreside offices. Performed new construction oversight at NASSCO Shipyard (San Diego, CA) for vessels being built for the US Government. Certified to conduct surveys for ABS including Hull and Machinery surveys, material and equipment certifications, and existing vessel surveys and certificate renewals.

1992 – 1995

Program Manager, "ABS Programs"

Global coordination of equipment and material approval programs offered by ABS including Type Approval and certification of preventative maintenance programs. Led business development effort and represented ABS at tradeshow worldwide. Managed ABS "Quality Assurance" program encompassing audit and certification of companies to manufacture ABS approved materials and equipment.

EXXON Shipping Company, Houston, TX**1985-1992**

EXXON Shipping Company operates EXXON owned and chartered US Flag oil, chemical and product tankers.

1985 – 1992

Fleet Engineer

Operated and maintained all shipboard equipment during daily watch periods on board oil, chemical and product tankers. Team member during drydock periods. Advanced USCG License to Chief Engineer.

Global Marine Drilling, Houston, TX**1984-1985**

Global Marine Drilling, now part of Transocean, operates offshore drilling equipment globally.

1984 – 1985

Fleet Engineer

Operated and maintained all asset equipment during daily watch periods on board drillship in Gulf of Mexico.

EDUCATION

B.S., Marine Engineering Systems; US Merchant Marine Academy; Kings Point, NY, 1984