



Experience Summary:

- 2002 - Present: President, Zeitler Marine Services, LLC
- 2015 – Present: Co-Owner, Reliable Maritime Solutions, LLC
- 1 Year: Vice President, Bahamas Paradise Cruise Line
- 7 Years: Principal Surveyor - DNV GL
- 17 Years: USCG Marine Inspector
- 1 Year: USCG Casualty Investigator
- 2 Years: USCG Shipboard Engineer/Damage Control Expert
- 4 Years: US Coast Guard Academy - Bachelor of Science, 1988

Career Summary

George Zeitler has had an active role in the maritime industry for decades. As the Chief of Vessel Inspection Division and School Chief for the US Coast Guard's Cruise Ship Center of Excellence, his leadership, mentorship and decisions were far reaching and served as a positive inspiration for many. As a Principle Surveyor and Lead Instructor for DNV-GL he continued to earn the respect and admiration of leaders at the highest levels of the marine industry.

A graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy where he studied naval architecture and marine engineering, George combines a strong blend of shipboard operational experience, extensive technical knowledge, and an impressive regulatory compliance record. In 2020, he was awarded a Master of Science (with distinction) in Marine Operations Management (Marine Surveying) by Middlesex University in London, UK.

Some of George's most successful work as a project manager involved his role as on-scene coordinator for the salvage of multiple ship groundings in the South Florida region. Demonstrating his technical knowledge and his ability to manage diverse teams, he was successful in overseeing the timely salvaging of 3 cargo ships (197m *Clipper Lasco*, 167m *Federal Pescadores*, 166m *Eastwind*) and the luxury motor yacht *TV*.

At the end of 2014, George left his role as a Principal Surveyor and Customer Service Manager for the international Classification Society DNV GL to help bring the cruise ship *Grand Celebration* into US service with a new cruise line in West Palm Beach, Florida. His efforts were vital to the vessel completing a successful change of Flag, change of Class Society, full USCG plan review and initial inspection within 45 days of taking delivery of the vessel.

In 2015, after the successful startup of the newly formed Bahamas Paradise Cruise Line, George resigned in order to fully utilize the over twenty-seven years of experience and knowledge he had obtained. In addition to focusing full-time with his own company: Zeitler Marine Service (ZMS) which provides a wide range of support to yacht and small craft owners, he co-founded Reliable Maritime Solutions which provides surveying and consulting support that has included compliance surveys, risk assessments and environmental compliance audits on ships ranging from the newest cruise ships to Ro-Pax ferries and military cargo vessels. They have conducted numerous pre-purchase and valuation surveys on passenger and cargo vessels, have assisted with a variety of issues with Maritime Authorities, and provided consulting services to operations of all sizes. As third-party auditor, Charlie provided in-depth and effective environmental compliance audits world-wide for a high-profile environmental crimes case. These audits identify vulnerabilities onboard the vessels and gaps in company's policies and procedures. These efforts were critical reducing the risk of potential violations.

Chronological Summary:

2002 – Present: President of Zeitler Marine Services (ZMS)

- Formed and operates Zeitler Marine Services (ZMS), building up over thirty years of experience and knowledge by offering condition and valuation (pre-purchase and insurance) and damage survey services to the yachting and recreational boating communities in the south Florida.
- ZMS also provides consulting, project management and expert witness support to litigants.

2015 – Present: Co-owner of Reliable Maritime Solutions (RMS)

- Formed Reliable Maritime Solutions (RMS), parlaying thirty years of experience and knowledge into his own company. With an extensive network of qualified and highly experienced individuals, RMS has become a recognized international company offering a wide range of maritime services to large corporations, law firms, and small independent companies worldwide.



2014 – 2015: Vice President, Operations - Bahamas Paradise Cruise Line

- Responsible for all aspects of management of the shore side and vessel operations.
- Responsible for project management, oversight of the technical management company, and coordinating all safety and statutory inspections.
- Acted as the direct liaison to US and Bahamian authorities. Brought into service in less than forty-five days, passing all safety and compliance inspections in record time.

2008 – 2014: Principal Surveyor, DNV GL

- Principal Surveyor for DNV GL's Global Cruise Center.
- Responsible for conducting Class and Statutory surveys as required by Class Rules and International regulations. Routinely surveyed and issued international certificates on behalf of the vessel's Flag Administration for numerous passenger ships including the world's largest passenger ships at the time: *Oasis of the Seas* and *Allure of the Seas*.
- Served as lead Customer Service Manager for 3 major cruise lines; primary point of contact for all technical and compliance issues on customer's vessels worldwide.
- Planned, prepared, and conducted quarterly technical seminars with ship superintendents and company compliance departments. Seminars covered upcoming regulatory requirements, results of recent surveys, and in-depth discussions on new equipment and compliance best practices.
- Developed and taught first of its kind advanced passenger ship surveyor course for DNV GL personnel used to provide a significant increase in customer service and communication skills for select qualified surveyors globally.

2002 – 2008: Chief, Vessel Inspection Division, U.S. Coast Guard Sector Miami (Retired February 2008)

- Managed and led team of 27 marine inspectors and port state control officers responsible for ensuring the compliance and safe operation of US and foreign flagged vessels in one of the busiest ports in the US. Oversaw the training of dozens new inspectors/surveyors.
- School Chief and Lead Instructor for the USCG's Passenger Vessel Control Verification Exam (CVE) Course designed to increase the knowledge of regulatory requirements and provide the skills to successfully inspect large foreign flagged passenger ships.
- Responsible for assisting in development of USCG policies and procedures for conducting examinations of foreign flagged passenger ships operating in US waters.

1998 – 2002: Seventh District Marine Safety Division, US Coast Guard

- Managed vessel safety program for six Marine Safety Offices (MSO) maintaining consistent enforcement of U.S. and International laws.
- Reviewed and approved marine casualty investigations conducted by 6 local offices in the Southeast US.
- Researched and made recommendations regarding appeals of local USCG Captain of the Port/Officer in charge, Marine Inspection decisions.
- Drafted vessel safety code for vessels under 24 meters in length operating in the Caribbean; code adopted by International Maritime Organization.

1998: Quality Assurance Department, Disney Cruise Line

- Worked for four months as a member of Quality Assurance Department.
- Drafted and submitted for flag approval the company's Search and Rescue Plan in accordance with International regulations.
- Conducted inspections of *Disney Magic* during construction identifying safety-related discrepancies for correction.
- Assisted in training crew in the vessel's safety procedures and the International Safety Management Code
- Participated in vessel audit for interim Safety Management Certificate.

1990 – 1998: Marine Inspector and Marine Casualty Investigator

- 7 years of experience as marine inspector responsible for conducting exams on US and foreign flagged vessels operating in ports from New York to Charleston, SC to Miami, FL and throughout Europe, Africa, and the Middle East.
- 1 year of experience as the Senior Investigating Officer in Charleston, SC responsible for conducting casualty investigations to determine cause and make recommendations to reduce further risk.



1988 – 1990: Engineering Watch Officer and Damage Control Officer, USCG Cutter

- Two years of operational experience standing engine room watches on 1600 horsepower diesel-electric propulsion system while underway. As damage control officer, responsible for the training of ship's crew to respond to fire, flooding, and other casualties on board. Qualified as officer in charge of a bridge watch.

Academic and Qualification Summary:

- Master of Science (with distinction) – Marine Operations Management (Marine Surveying), 2020, Middlesex University
- Bachelor of Science, Coast Guard Academy, 1988 with emphasis in Naval Architecture/Marine Engineering
- Diploma in Marine Surveying, North Kent College/Lloyd's Maritime Academy, 2018
- Project Management, DNV 2012
- Hull Structure Course, DNV, 2011
- Survey of Lifting Appliances, DNV, 2011
- Welding Course, DNV, 2010
- Materials Technology, DNV, 2010
- Auxiliary Boiler, DNV, 2008
- Navigational Bridge Systems, DNV, 2008
- Rudder and Rudder Damages, DNV, 2008
- Maritime Rules and Regulations, DNV, 2008
- ABYC Standards Certification Course, 2006
- ABYC Stability Course, 2004
- Passenger Vessel Surveyors Course, Lloyd's Register, 1998
- Human Factors Engineering Course, U.S. Coast Guard, 1997
- Investigating Officer Course, U.S. Coast Guard, 1992
- Inspection Department Course, U.S. Coast Guard, 1991
- Shipboard Damage Control Officer Course, U.S. Navy, 1989

Skills and Knowledge Summary:

- Experienced Manager and Leader - has been in management and leadership positions for over 30 years; experienced in dealing with diverse backgrounds.
- Accredited Marine Surveyor by the Society of Accredited Marine Surveyors (SAMS) – 2006.
- Experienced public speaker, comfortable presenting technical material to groups with broad range of knowledge and experience. Gave well-received presentations at SAMS 2019 International Meeting & Education Conference (IMEC) in Savannah, GA and the 2020 International Institute of Marine Surveying Conference, Baltimore, MD.
- In depth knowledge of international and domestic regulations.

Publications and Papers Summary:

- One article on Roles and Responsibilities of Class Societies published in USCG Proceedings quarterly maritime magazine distributed to the marine industry.
- Editor-in-chief and contributor to internal newsletter highlighting technical issues regarding passenger ships for DNV GL.
- Created curriculum and material for 4-day training course presented to DNV GL surveyors to increase technical knowledge, communication skills, and efficiency in conducting passenger ship surveys.
- Drafted U.S. Coast Guard policy letters and local U.S. Coast Guard Sector Miami regulatory implementation guidelines.
- Wrote and maintained course material for U.S. Coast Guard's Passenger Vessel Control Verification Course (a six-day course teaching SOLAS passenger vessel requirements and PSC examination techniques to Coast Guard inspectors and cruise industry personnel).