



inec



2026

18TH BIENNIAL INTERNATIONAL NAVAL ENGINEERING CONFERENCE

Future Ready Navies: Navigating the Seven Cs

*Competition, Collaboration, Capability,
Compliance, Connectedness, Crewing, Climate*

SUMMARY

Future navies operate at the nexus of competition and collaboration - a delicate balance that fuels progress while demanding partnership. On one hand, intensifying competition drives innovation, pushing navies to develop cutting-edge technologies, autonomous platforms, and agile doctrines to secure maritime advantage. Yet, paradoxically, the same competitive environment necessitates robust collaboration as modern naval operations demand interoperability or even interchangeability with allied forces, civilian agencies, and industry. Such partnerships enable shared intelligence, joint training, cooperative technological innovation, and unified responses, strengthening collective security and strategic reach. More importantly they help to share risk, reduce costs and enhance efficiencies, ensuring resources are effectively used in the face of complex threats.

As navies invest in adaptable platforms and resilient supply lines, compliance with international law and environmental standards remains critical, especially as climate-related risks rise. Success ultimately depends on attracting, developing and retaining skilled personnel, but also on developing the necessary secure communications, control and decision-making tools within an ever more interconnected battlespace. Navigating the tension between innovation through competition and efficiency through collaboration is the defining challenge for future maritime forces; a journey we invite you, the naval engineering community, to join at INEC 2026 to share your experiences with like-minded individuals.

10th - 12th November 2026

JOHN MCINTYRE CONFERENCE CENTRE,
THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH,
EDINBURGH, UK



INEC 2026 provides the platform to engage with a global community and explore the challenges and innovations to help shape the future of naval engineering

Capt N R McCallum RN

INEC KEY POINTS

- Continuing inclusion of International Ship Control Systems Symposium
- Hosted in the John McIntyre conference centre at the University of Edinburgh within easy access of the historic city centre
- International audience from over 16 countries
- CPD approved by IMarEST
- Prizes and awards for best entries for those under 35

THEMES AND SUB THEMES

COMPETITION

- Innovation and leadership: competency, culture & courage
- Emerging trends and technology
- Balancing operational missions with market force influences
- The role of Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

COLLABORATION

- Leveraging commercial innovation
- Advantages and challenges to joint programmes
- Organisational changes or tools to enable collaboration
- International Modularity/Adaptability/Flexibility

CAPABILITY

- Spiral development
- How to generate mass
- Integration of novel systems
- Future proofing design
- Exquisite or disposable
- Resilience - but don't forget the auxiliaries!

COMPLIANCE

- How to maintain compliance without compromising capability
- Regulating new technology
- Maintaining the speed of regulation with the speed of relevance

CONNECTEDNESS

- System processing - use of AI and Quantum technology
- Maintaining communication and control of autonomous fleets
- Digital twins
- System Integration

CREWING

- Balancing the role of humans and computer
- Remotely operated or autonomous
- Training and future skill sets
- Minimum Crew

CLIMATE

- Synergies and coherence with other domain and sector developments
- How to fuel the power?
- Maintaining global access

SUBMISSION PROCESS

The Technical Advisory Committee encourages abstracts from all areas of industry, academia and government. Prospective authors are invited to submit titles, keywords, and Abstract of between 250 and 500 words, via EasyChair to the INEC & iSCSS 2026 Technical Advisory Committee.

The abstract should introduce the topic and its relevance, the proposed method or approach to be discussed in the paper and the expected results and (direction of the) conclusions. Successful authors will be asked to develop their abstract and submit a full technical paper of up to 4000 words. All papers will be reviewed based on technical quality, relevance, and their potential for generating interest and discussion and published in the Scopus indexed conference proceedings. Authors of the best papers presented at the conference, within the scope of the Journal of Maritime Engineering and Technology (JMET), will be selected to submit a technically extended version to the Special Issue of JMET.

SPONSORSHIP AND EXHIBITION

With typically over 300 international attendees from across the naval and maritime enterprise, INEC and iSCSS provide a compelling platform to promote your company and products. The exhibition is at the heart of the conference throughout the 3 days with plenty of opportunity to network with potential decision makers from government and business contacts. The conference also attracts a wider audience through the website, promotional material, and online content posted during the event. Please contact:

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AWARDS

By kind permission of the Sir Donald Gosling Foundation, the INEC and iSCSS 26 Technical Advisory Committees are delighted to announce the continuation of the Sir Donald Gosling Award for authors under the age of 35 at the time of the conference with a total prize fund of £10,000. All named authors on the paper, must be under 35 to qualify. To enter, authors must submit proof of date of birth, such as a passport copy, during abstract submission. Awards will be shared between named joint authors and all will receive a certificate. There is also a special Patron's Award for merit from the broader conference papers and presentations.

How to submit your abstract on EasyChair

Dear Author(s),

Please follow these steps to update and submit your abstract by the deadline of **30 JANUARY 2026**

If you need any assistance with this, please contact events@imarest.org

1. Create an EasyChair account and log in at www.easychair.org

To submit your abstract, you need an EasyChair account. If you do not have an EasyChair account, you should create one. [This help article](#) explains how to create an account.

If you already have an EasyChair account, ignore this step. You do not need a separate account for each conference to which you submit.

2. Enter the conference(s) as an "author"

Then click on "make a new submission".

KEY DATES

Abstract submission **30 January 2026**

Notification to successful authors **6 March 2026**

Receipt of full technical paper **15 May 2026**



VENUE

JOHN MCINTYRE CONFERENCE CENTRE,
THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON INEC AND iSCSS:
www.imarest.org/inec