

Better connectivity gives KVH Videotel content opportunities

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KVH supplies its own VSAT systems for vessel connectivity

Improving satellite connectivity for ships is providing opportunities to provide better services and content to seafarers for both training and leisure, said KVH senior vice president training and content Mark Woodhead.

For onboard training KVH Videotel is introducing more interactive modules, with richer content and a better learning experience. [This can include virtual reality training](#) allowing 'hands on' simulation of tasks. Gamification can also be used, to make training more entertaining. Mr Woodhead said the company is talking to a leading ship manager about introducing virtual reality training on board vessels.

Development of big data means that training records of seafarers on board ships can be transmitted and analysed for benchmarking and other purposes. Mr Woodhead said this is especially valuable for shipowner and managers as KVH Videotel provides training for about 350,000 seafarers globally. "Connectivity will change training business models."

Mr Woodhead said better connections also allow provision of better services such as news, sports, movies and TVs. KVH Videotel is introducing Newslink Live during the first quarter of 2017, enabling downloading of live news files.