

the crew

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REPORT



CV SURGERY



Our regular feature explains how to better present a CV and shows where jobseeking crew can go wrong in all aspects of the CV writing process. This month Laurence Reymann critiques the résumé of an engineer searching for new employment.

Our candidate this month is an engineer who started his career in the merchant navy and has made the transition to the yachting industry.

As you know by now, CVs have to be the point, concise and informative. Do not be too brutal with it, however, as a shortage of information is not good either and will not do you justice. This month, our candidate's CV suffers indeed from distinct lack of information and facts. Let's take a look.

Personal Profile

The beginning is fine, the personal information part is clear, no changes required there. The Personal Profile (1) section should be rewritten as it is a bit untidy. If English is not your first language, ask a friend with English as a first language for assistance and to proofread it, or at least use the spellcheck function of your computer – in fact, this advice is for everybody out there writing a CV! It is important that the text flows, that the grammar and orthography are correct.

Maritime Qualification

This section (2) should be combined with the Education section (3) on page two; they go hand in hand and there is no need to split this information in this specific case.

Sailing and Work Experience

This section (4) needs revamping; captains will be interested in knowing more about our candidate's experience and type of yachts he has worked on. I see no names of yachts, why? In addition, I would also like to see the yacht builder, type of engines, places cruised, any specific work carried out such as refits etc. Basically, a small job description for each position.

Also, the spacing is inadequate and with everything in bold nothing stands out (5). I imagine that our candidate wanted to keep all this information on one page. In this case, it does not work. We need space and an easier layout to read; my eyes struggles after the second line of boats and I lose interest.

With a bit more work, we'll have a great CV; we are very close...

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