Innovation in networks in the maritime industry
How collaboration for innovation creates business value for the maritime industry

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Background
• The maritime industry is faced with many environmental, regulatory, economical and operational challenges
• Industry leaders and recent research point out that in order to effectively address these challenges companies need to intensify their efforts in innovating, through collaboration with other organizations within and outside the maritime industry (i.e., the industry is expected to apply a concept of “innovation in networks”)
• Recognizing that institutionalizing of collaborative innovation processes could be essential for achieving and sustaining competitive advantage, the features and function of the innovation network for the maritime industry need to be identified

Research objectives
• To determine the key enablers, barriers, and mechanisms of “innovation in networks” in the maritime industry
• To identify the key characteristics of collaborative innovation processes applied in the maritime industry
• To determine managerial actions to be undertaken to organize for successful innovation in networks
• To critically assess the benefits of innovation in networks

Research design
• Multiple-case research strategy

Expected results and impact
• A management decision model for successful implementation of collaborative innovation processes
• Explanation of how “innovation in networks” creates value for participants in the maritime industry
• Understanding of how fully deployed “innovation in networks” across the maritime industry impacts challenges, business performance, and competitiveness