

CLAIMS

1. A system for fleet management, including handling visual events in association with an activity comprising:
 - at least one visual event detector having at least one camera that acquires images of the activity, and at least one processor receiving the images and a visual event detection process operating at least in part on the processor that processes the images;
 - a queuing process that identifies visual events from the at least one visual event detector and stores the visual events;
 - a communications process adapted to transmit the stored visual events in a queued format to a remote location;
 - a display that is accessed by users to view the visual events; and
 - a collaboration process that displays information related to collaboration between permitted users based upon a context of each of the visual events, respectively, and wherein the visual events comprise fleet management activities related to at least one of bridge operations, cargo operations, maintenance operations, safety operations, and vetting and security with respect to a vessel.
2. The system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the collaboration process is accessible via a browser button on the display, and when activated, opens a pane that allows the users to perform the collaboration.
3. The system as set forth in claims 1 or 2, wherein the communications process enables a reduced-bandwidth communications channel adapted to transmit the stored visual events in a reduced bandwidth.
4. The system as set forth in any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the visual events provide data primitives that are derived into user information, the data primitives including at least one of statistics, pattern matches, metrics and time.
5. The system as set forth in any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the stored visual events are communicated across the communications channel based upon user-set priorities, wherein higher priority events are communicated first in a queue from the stored visual events.

6. The system as set forth in any of claims 1 to 5, further comprising a user interface that displays information of the at least one of the bridge operations, cargo operations, maintenance operations, safety operations, and vetting and security at a base location in one or more predetermined presentation formats.
7. The system as set forth in claim 6, wherein the user interface includes at least one:
inputs that enable the user-set priorities; or
inputs that enable adding or setting configuration parameters for the at least one event detector.
8. The system as set forth in claim 6 or 7, wherein the user information includes at least one of fleet reports on a plurality of vessels associated with the user interface, vessel reports, occurrence of discrete events and occurrence of complex events comprising a plurality of discrete events, wherein information is optionally displayed in a dashboard format comprising one or more visual windows, alerts and numerical data.
9. The system as set forth in any of claims 1 to 8, wherein the collaboration process includes functions that enable one or more of (a) simultaneous document editing, (b) whiteboarding, (c) sticky notes, (d) text chat, (e) notification, (f) video conferencing, (g) audio conferencing, and (h) contextual commenting.
10. The system as set forth in any of claims 1 to 9 wherein the collaboration process permits access by each of the users based upon context of the visual event and permissions assigned to each of the users, respectively.
11. A method for fleet management including handling of visual events in association with an activity comprising the steps of:
acquiring images of the activity with at least one camera and performing visual event detection with a processor;
identifying visual events relative to fleet management operations from the processor and storing the visual events in a queue based upon predetermined parameters;
communicating with a remote location to transmit the stored visual events in a queued format to a remote location;
displaying the visual events to users on a dashboard; and

providing a collaboration function to users that are permitted access based upon a context of each of the visual events, respectively Claim 1 end.

12. The method as set forth in claim 11, wherein the step of communicating includes enabling a reduced-bandwidth communications channel that transmits the stored visual events in a reduced bandwidth.

13. The method as set forth in claims 11 or 12, wherein the visual events comprise fleet management activities related to at least one of bridge operations, cargo operations, maintenance operations, safety operations, and vetting and security with respect to a vessel.

14. The method as set forth in any of claims 11 to 13 wherein the collaboration function includes functions that enable one or more of (a) simultaneous document editing, (b) whiteboarding, (c) sticky notes, (d) text chat, (e) notification, (f) video conferencing, (g) audio conferencing, (h) contextual commenting.

15. The method as set forth in any of claims 11 to 14, further comprising, allowing access to each of the users to perform the collaboration function based upon a context of at least one of the visual events and permissions assigned to each of the users, respectively.

16. The method as set forth in any of claims 11 to 15, further comprising, activating a browser button on the dashboard_and thereby opening a pane_that allows users to perform the collaboration function.

17. The method as set forth in any of claims 11 to 16, wherein the visual events provide data primitives that are derived into user information, the data primitives including at least one of statistics, pattern matches, metrics and time.

18. The method as set forth in any of claims 11 to 17, wherein the stored visual events are communicated across the communications channel based upon user-set priorities, wherein higher priority events are communicated first in a queue from the stored visual events.

19. The method as set forth in any of claims 11 to 18, further comprising displaying, by a user interface, information of at least one of bridge operations, cargo operations, maintenance operations, safety operations, and vetting and security at a base location in one or more predetermined presentation formats.
20. The method as set forth in claim 19, wherein the user interface includes at least one of: inputs that enable setting user-set priorities; or inputs that enable adding or setting configuration parameters for a visual event detector.
21. The method as set forth in claim 19 or 20, further comprising deriving user information from the visual events, wherein the user information includes at least one of fleet reports on a plurality of vessels associated with the user interface, vessel reports, occurrence of discrete events and occurrence of complex events comprising a plurality of discrete events, and wherein information is optionally displayed in a dashboard format comprising one or more visual windows, alerts and numerical data.