

NauticEd

21ST CENTURY SAILING EDUCATION

Professional Profile

Grant Headifen

Global Director of Education, NauticEd International Sailing Education

Grant Headifen is the founder and Global Director of Education of NauticEd, a state-of-the-art international sailing education organization established in 2008.

NauticEd features an extensive e-learning theory curriculum for sailing knowledge coupled with a practical on-the-water skills training program which is facilitated via a global network of experienced instructors. To date, NauticEd has provided over a **quarter million** courses to students worldwide.

In his present capacity, Grant is directly responsible for NauticEd's leadership and strategic direction. He oversees eLearning technology architecture, student curriculum development, standards continuity, school and instructor development, yacht charter company and strategic alliances.

Grant's love for the water began at the age of eight when he learned to sail. In his youth, he envisioned life that would combine his passion for sailing with long-term career aspirations in the marine industry. He went on to earn his bachelor's degree with honors in mechanical engineering from the University of Auckland in New Zealand, followed by a master's degree from the University of Texas in Austin.

Grant's first major marine industry achievement was the co-launch of SailTime in the early 2000's, becoming its first CEO. This global fractional ownership company was the first to blend technology innovation with sailing operation and boat ownership. Through this experience dealing with sailors of all skill levels from global ports of call, he recognized a compelling need for streamlining competency and instruction.

Upon the successful international expansion and eventual sale of SailTime, he was able to focus all of his experience, energy and enthusiasm to build an online sailing educational platform which he branded, NauticEd. It was the first training program to be recognized by the U.S. Coast Guard and the National Association of State Law Administrators to meet the established American National Standards.

Since the launch of this world-class organization in 2008 with a mission to create safer, more competent sailors, Grant has continued to collaborate with scores of leading educators, e-learning technologists, forward-thinking sailing schools and a select group of top international instructors to build a comprehensive curriculum. Today, NauticEd

offers 24 online courses and five ranks of on-the-water practical certificates, all training to the highest international standards.

With a career now spanning more than 20 years in the marine industry, a US Coast Guard Master certification and thousands of nautical miles of sailing experience including 35 yacht charter destinations around the world to his credit, Grant brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the helm of NauticEd. In addition, he is the author of five sailing books currently sold on Amazon; has served as a flotilla leader, sailing instructor and trainer of instructors; and is a certified yacht charter agent.

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