



TOEIC® Test Success Story
National Navy-France

Certify Personnel in English-Language Proficiency

THE CHALLENGE

Improve the testing method for earning military language certificates. In recent years, the French Navy has become increasingly involved in multilateral operations and international relations. As a result, Navy personnel, from ordinary seamen to officers, have a growing need to be able to express themselves in English.

To better evaluate the ability to communicate in English, the Naval Language Commission proposed a way to improve the existing testing method by replacing first and second degree military language certificates with an external test, one that would be more objective and flexible.

THE SOLUTION

The TOEIC® test met the Navy's criteria because TOEIC test scores are benchmarked to the Military Language Certificate in English. A sailor must take the TOEIC test and achieve a score between 605 and 850 points for a first degree military language certificate, and a minimum score of 855 for a second degree certificate. The option of increasing testing sessions in multiple Navy centers was a determining factor in choosing the TOEIC test.



THE RESULTS

In October 2005, nine test centers were authorized and 67 Navy administrators were certified by ETS. A total of 3,075 sailors were tested between October 2005 and July 2006. Instructors of English in the Navy are satisfied with the test's objectivity. A majority of test takers also approve of the internationally recognized TOEIC test, and being able to choose from a variety of test dates is a great help to people with complicated schedules.

Learn more about the TOEIC test at
www.ets.org/toEIC57.html.

To contact a TOEIC sales representative, call
+1-609-771-7170.

Or e-mail
globalforum@ets.org.



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