Human errors are behind most of the maritime accidents.

Technical development of maritime safety systems has decreased the number of accidents regardless of an increased traffic volume.

Technical development emphasizes the role of people at sea. Errors in navigation and communication as well as poor judgment are often the main causes for accidents.

It is important to focus on the competence of people at sea as well as their working conditions and well-being.

**Accidents by ship types**
- Cargo ships: 49%
- Passenger ships: 25%
- Tankers: 10%

**Groundings and collisions in the Gulf of Finland**

**Accidents in the Gulf of Finland**
- Grounding: 50%
- Collision: 20%
- Other reason: 20%
- Fire: 10%

Source: Finnish Transport Agency, HELCOM