

## THE STRENGTH OF THE CREW

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### **Living conditions on a submarine**

A submarine is a combat vessel that navigates under the sea to hide and approach its targets while remaining undetected. To achieve this, the crew remains in a confined environment for several months, never exposed to daylight, while the submarine operates at a depth of several hundred meters. Blind, it navigates using unstable sound waves that change with variations in water temperature, salinity, and pressure. It is also capable of deploying personnel ashore, mainly special forces, without ever being noticed. During submarine missions, three teams alternate with each other in order to ensure the submarine is run properly constantly.

### **Intense and demanding training**

Given the challenging living conditions on board, submariners undergo intense and rigorous training. All crew members are volunteers who initially train for several months at a Naval Academy. There are around twenty different jobs and several hundred qualifications available. Following this, they train in realistic vehicles using simulators and are divided into three teams for platform operation, enemy detection, and security and propulsion.

### **Respecting other crew members is the foundation of life on board**

In training as in real conditions, the crew plays an essential role. They must get along, show cohesion and be consistent. Each team member must be aware of the strengths and weaknesses of others, and there should be no incompatible personalities. Team uniformity and distribution of skills are crucial. For life on board, respect for one another is fundamental: respect for one's body, need to rest, preferences, opinions, religion, and philosophy. Throughout the entire mission, the aim is to pay attention to one another, listen to other team members, perceive their mood changes, and prevent them from isolating themselves. In a submarine, as in the healthcare sector, a sense of teamwork and trust is fundamental.