What is Dynamic Positioning (DP) and what does a DP Operator do?

Dynamic Positioning (DP) is an advanced system that keeps ships in a precise position without using anchors by automatically compensating for wind and currents.

As a Dynamic Positioning Operator (DPO), you operate this system and are responsible for setting it up, monitoring it and carrying out crucial risk analyses. Your expertise is essential to ensuring safety during complex operations near offshore installations and wind farms. Your duties include (see DNV-ST-0023):

- operate the DP control systems of the vessel working in a possibly hostile environment and in changing weather conditions
- judge whether DP operations can commence, continue or should be suspended and take immediate action if required
- demonstrate full competence using the systems/modes that apply to the applicable notation(s)
- demonstrate a holistic view of the vessel's management systems and operations and consider the impact of operating under DP on e.g. security vulnerability as well as from a legislative and regulatory point of view.