MARINE TRAINING CENTRE

“Steering standards in the right direction “

KIRIBATI

SUMMER NEWS 2009

Marine Training Centre, Betio, Tarawa, Kiribati

Tel: ++ 686 26400, Fax: ++ 68626561
mtctrw@gmail.com
www.labour.gov.ki
Dear readers,

I feel a pleasure to write a second edition of MTC Summer News. As we have promised, MTC News will give you opportunity to keep-up-to-date with the work done in MTC in previous year. With great support by MLHRD and GoK, SPMS partners and our donors and friends from NZAID and AUSAID, many good things are happened this year for which we are really grateful. More than Euro 3 million has been invested in MTC during 2008 and 2009 and projects sponsored by AUSAID and NZAID during this year are completed or will be very soon and our successful story fly high over Oceans, thanks to our Instructors and staff, as well.

Unfortunately, bad times comes for worldwide economies, including shipping business as well, and 2009 it has been a year of ‘doom and gloom’ for many shipping companies. Liner shipping in the container sector is expected to loss about USD 20 billion before the year end with bad prognosis that about 20% of the fleet maybe idle by 2010. We need to join our forces in those difficult times for shipping industry and to prepare our Institute and our cadets and seafarer’s for future challenges and changes within the industry. Many ships has been laid-up…… many seaman’s are lost their jobs due to recessions and economic worldwide crises…. but we need to look in future with hope and to be ready for a day when all these will be just a bad memory…… For that day, we need to be ready….

As the only ready ones will be winners…

“...he alone resides and riots on the sea... There is his home; there lies his business... he lives on the sea; he rides among the waves, he climbs them as chamois hunters climb the Alps. For years he knows not the land; so that when he comes to it at last, it smells like another world, more strangely than the moon would to an Earthman...” (1851, Moby Dick)

Boro Lucic
Captain Superintendent
Marine Training Center
Betio, September 2009
TRANSAS SIMULATORS

The Transas Group is the world leading manufacturer of systems for the professional training and certification of sea specialists. The broad scope of Transas simulators enables training in different maritime specialties. The current Transas simulation product line covers practically every aspect of modern ship operation including bridge operations, communications/GMDSS, VTS, engine room, liquid cargo handling and crisis management.

Modern marine simulators allow training in both standard procedures and emergencies, developing professional skills and consolidating previously obtained theoretical knowledge.

Marine Training Centre under project with AUSAID has purchased a three Navigational (Bridge) Simulators which includes a GMDSS Simulators, additional three steering simulators and in total, five trainee stations for Engine Room Simulators. Thanks to AUSAID and Australian Government we are able to offer very realistic training to trainees and to prepare them better for future carrier at sea.

Navigational simulator Navi-Trainer Professional 4000 (NTPRO 4000) enables simulator training and certification of watch officers, chief officers, captains and pilots serving on commercial and fishing ships with the gross tonnage of 500 tons and more. This complies with requirements of IMO STCW 78/95 Convention and Model Courses 7.01, 7.03 as well as number of specific tasks beyond the Convention.

NTPRO 4000 simulator is compliant with ‘Class A, (B, C) NAV’ as per Det Norske Veritas classification.

The Engine Room Simulator ERS 4000 has been developed for the education, training and assessment of engine department personnel, including officers in charge of watch, second and chief engineers. The high level of physical and behavioral realism of ERS 4000 creates a professional environment for the following types of marine engineering training: familiarization and education; standard operation and watch keeping; advanced operation and troubleshooting.

The wide application capabilities of the Transas ERS 4000 simulator make it the right solution for maritime colleges and academies, training centers, maritime authorities and crewing agencies.

The Transas Radio Communication Simulator TGS 4100 is designed for training and examining of ship specialists who receive a General Operator Certificate.
(GOC) or Restricted Operator Certificate (ROC). Search and Rescue (SAR) operations and VTS operator training is supported as well.

Transas GMDSS simulator covers the essential areas of maritime training in full compliance with STCW'95 Code and IMO Model Course 1.25 and holds type approval certificate from the Department of Maritime Transport of Russia. The simulator with hard panel equipment is approved by the AMERC for the conduct of GOC examinations in place of actual equipment.
Night approach to Sydney Port

**LIFEBOAT AND CRANE**

Upgrading of our training resources under project with AUSAID included a new, fully enclosed lifeboat (SOLAS approved) and marine crane, similar to crane which has been used on Container ships, for handling of stores and provisions. Once they arrived in Tarawa, before this year end, we will be able to perform training on all types of lifeboats used on modern ships and our trainees and seafarers on their upgrading course will be trained in proper usage of Crane including a proper
maintenance. MTC will be a first training campus on Pacific which can offer such training.

Visit of US Ambassador HE. C. Steven McGann

During his first visit to MTC, in November last year, HE C. Steven McGann is been impressed with our Institute and he offers us support in establishing a contact with California Maritime Academy (CMA).

During his recent visit to Kiribati and MTC last July, HE C. Steven McGann brought us good news. CMA acknowledge their interest in close work with us in promoting a safe and clean Pacific Ocean and they scheduled a visit of their training vessel “Golden Bear” to Tarawa in 2011. That will be for first time that their training ship will sail through South Pacific.

Visit of NZ Minister of Foreign Affairs HE Murray McCully

During Independence week, we had a pleasure to host a Minister of FA of NZ, HE Murray McCully and his team, accompanied with NZHC in Kiribati HE Robert Kaiwai in short visit to MTC. NZ Government through NZAID has been trusted and good partner and friend to MTC since 1980’s and MTC will not be so successful without their support through all those years for which we are really grateful. We are proud to be pointed as example how a good co-operation and positive approach can give such a good results and been worth all support that we had all these years. This visit will boost our co-operation in following months and will secure safe future for MTC and our future projects.
Odyssey Marine Exploration, Inc. is engaged in the exploration of deep-ocean shipwrecks and uses innovative methods and state-of-the-art technology to conduct extensive search and archaeological recovery operations around the world. Odyssey offers various ways to share in the excitement of deep-ocean exploration through its exhibits, books, television, merchandise, and educational programs. JWM Productions recently concluded filming Odyssey’s 2008 “Atlas” expeditions for an 11-part primetime series for Discovery Channel, which premiered in January 2009 in the United States and which is scheduled to air worldwide during this year.

They have share with us a lot of their education materials, which included a complete curriculum on Marine Exploration and Ocean Resources and some part of it will be included in our General Studies for IDF Courses as our commitment is to promote a safe and clean seas for everyone.

**Videotel and World Maritime University have launched an ISM DPM Training Course**

The candidates from MTC have each received a course completion certificate bearing the World Maritime University (WMU) and Videotel stamps of approval. MTC officers have been first candidates to attend this course and their certificates are numbered 001, 002…. MTC is clear leader in region in implementing of new standards and we are working closely with world leaders in training such a Videotel, Seagull and Transas.
**STCW’95 – future changes and MTC**

In draft resolution, which will become a mandatory in very near future are a lot of changes in training and certifications of the seafarers. The biggest change which will have impact on MTC training is a new regulation: II/5 – Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of ratings as able seafarer deck (AB), including new table A-II/5 “Specification of minimum standards of competence of ratings as able seafarer deck”.

MTC, as always looking ahead and our existing AB Course Program currently is under review and very soon we will be able to offer a new course based on regulation which will be in force very soon. That is a very important for us, in order to avoid that new generations of young AB’s will need to do their courses again as per future reg.A-II/5.3 -:

“Every party shall compare the standards of competence which it required of Able Seaman for certificates issued before (date) with those specified for the certificate in Section A-II/5 of the STCW Code, and shall determine the need, if any, for requiring these personnel to update their qualifications.”

**MARPOL Awareness Course**

During last year there have been a lot of pollution incidents involving the vessels and their crew around the world.

The International Maritime Organization (IMO), NGO’s and many other subjects in maritime industry proposed advanced training in MARPOL regulations for crew in order to keep our seas clean and safe. MTC recognized importance of pollution free environment many years ago and in 2007 we introduce a Garbage Management Plan (first in Kiribati) with proper segregation of garbage within the compound which includes color codes for various types of garbage. This year we offered a new Course which has been included in IDF studies and to all upgrading courses: MARPOL Awareness Course.

Participants of all upgrading courses and trainees during their General Studies will be taught about MARPOL regulations, garbage management, and different rules around the world regarding garbage handling and pollution free regulations.

Again, we have been the first in wider region to offer this kind of course to seafarers.
Maritime English Language Program for IDF Courses

Under project with NZAID and with help of NZMS (New Zealand Maritime School) we manage to introduce a new program in our Language Department: “The MarEng” programme developed by “Leonardo da Vinchi” Institute on behalf of the EU and following the STCW 95 standards is the basis of this programme. The above programme runs in conjunction with the Maritime English Syllabus and provides the main form of learning material. Included within this are verbal and written exercises for each syllabus section and further visual resources to compliment training. There are a total of 96 of 45 minutes sessions. The programme is made as a sea voyage on the M/V Marina, a multi-purpose dry cargo ship of 12,000 DWT. During the voyage they will learn about life and work at sea, about the marine fields as a whole and most important that they will learn a proper maritime English. Together with NZMS, under project with NZAID we are almost completed developing of new curriculum for our English Language programme in MTC which will be taught in conjunction with Maritime English for next class in 2010.

New Course offered in Catering Training: Food Handling, Hygiene and Galley Safety

In order to boost our training in Catering Services, we introduce a SEAGULL – Computer Based Training program and their CBT No.70 to all Catering Courses. In future, for all participants in Catering Courses will be mandatory to complete CBT 70.

With the exception of regular staff on cruise liners and ferries, many marine catering personnel receive little job-specific training after they leave their schools or academies to go to sea. This program is primarily intended to fill that gap and provide ongoing training for the catering department staff. It will also complement shore-based foundation courses for those still under training.
Applicable sections of international regulations and selected representative national regulations, including MARPOL 73/78, the US Public Health Services Act and the UK Food Safety Orders have been used in the writing of this program. Acknowledged industry guidelines, such as the UK Code of Safe Working Practices for Merchant Seamen and the Vessel Sanitation Program manual, compiled by the US Centers for Disease Control, have also been consulted.

SPC Maritime Achiever Award Scheme; Distinguished Cadet Award 2009

This year, SPC (Secretariat of the Pacific Community) award has been granted to Mr. Henry Taniera, the best trainee of MTC 86th IDF Class, presently on board of SPMS fleet.

Distinguished cadets are those cadets who demonstrate academic excellence by achieving results greater than or equal to 80% overall. Mr. Taniera is been one of the best trainee in last years and management and staff of MTC is proud that his achievement it’s been recognized within the region. We wish him a fruitful and successful carrier in shipping.

The first IDF course of 18 months in the millennium.

Some of the busiest year’s in the history of MTC are the years 2008 and 2009. We had dramatic changes taking places within the system of MTC and as well significantly the physical changes around and in the campus. Most of them are the physical infrastructure projects which some of them were overlapping but MTC still handle them competently.

Within these changes the academic system of the IDF program and training to be prolonged to 18 months instead of 12 months, was due to be considered taking into accounts the factors affecting the evolution of the modern seafaring market and the shipping industries worldwide.

An initiation for this change was in August 2008 seeking the Government approval. It involves parties on a consortium level especially the Government of Kiribati and the South Pacific Marine Services. Upon approval by the Cabinet the Academic Board of the Marine Training Centre decided at the board meeting in November 2008 that an 18 months training for the IDF will commence with the 89th IDF Course in January 2009.
In summary the 18 months IDF program consist of the following stages of training; It is divided into:

- “English (EFL) and Maritime English Stage” which provide the trainees with the knowledge and skills required to communicate in English when working on board a ship and also introduces them to basic nautical terminology so that they can build on this in the workplace.
- “Junior Stage” providing theoretical training of basic maritime knowledge and abilities and,
- a “Senior Stage” provide further maritime knowledge and skills required on board and mostly concentrate on the practical skills.

The major advantage for this significant and substantial change is that MTC will run a full six months of “English Program (EFL) and a Seagull CBT Shipboard Familiarization & Maritime English” at the first six months before they start their normal IDF program. This will prepare each trainee for English and other shipboard and maritime familiarization subjects well in advance before they commence on to their major junior stage and senior stage training in MTC.

More academically important is that we can evaluate their level of English and rectifying the problem on this issues before a trainee moves on to the junior stage as we all experience that it is still a major problem with our trainees after pass out as commented by some of the shipping companies.

With all our new simulators mentioned in this issue being installed this year, the senior stage will prepare well each trainee on the “hand-on-the-job” training with experiences and skills required, which is the major objective of MTC in discussion on the issue of quality training.

In overall this major change will lead MTC to maintain its place amongst other maritime training in the region and world wide as a provider for the maritime training (for basic IDF, Steward courses) within a required international standard.

Also by accomplishing this goal, MTC will also conform to the requirements within the NZAid Strategic Plan for MTC Goal 1a-1.4, “All basic course graduates will have successfully completed a revised and integrated maritime English programme by December 2009”, which is the only one goal not yet implemented.
88th IDF Course on the 3rd July 2009 at their passing out ceremony. The last course of 12 moths training.

Leading Hands of the 88th and 89th IDF Course at the farewell function with MTC Librarian Mrs. Jelica Lucic and her son Bosko Lucic.

......MTC with the national events......

MTC participation in the country official events is a customary activity. One of the well known country event is the Independence Celebration of the Independence of the Republic of Kiribati. This year is an interesting involvement as MTC joined other schools, companies and other enterprises based in Kiribati taking part in different events and activities during the 30th Independence of Kiribati on the 12th July.

During the main official ceremony on 13th July MTC joined the National Police Force and Marine Police to lead the march at the field.
At the Miss Kiribati 2009 National Competition with Miss Kiribati Float Contest the Marine Training Centre was invited by one of the local shipping company to act and take part in their promotion with their Miss Kiribati competitor. At the end of the competition the MTC participation was well paid as Miss Joyce Shipping Company Ltd. comes first place in the National Floating Competition and in overall became Miss Kiribati 2009.

Etekieru Lotua, DCS MTC
MTC Platoon - Squad Leaders (3 Instructors) and the trainees performing the Presidential Salute.

Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources Development Observers

In late June 2009, 35 candidates of whom 5 were females were selected as Fisheries Observers by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community officials. Based on SPC request regarding International Maritime Organization (IMO) requirements to work on Foreign Fishing Vessels, the Marine Training Centre supported SPC and Ministry of Fisheries' conducting a Basic Safety Training Course, to these selected candidates.

Areas covered in this course were:-
- Personal Safety and Social Responsibility
- Personal Fire Fighting Techniques and
- Personal Survival Techniques
- First Aid

which were carried out theoretically and practically. The 35 candidates were split in two groups to accommodate fair and efficient delivery. Each successfully completed the prescribed components of the BSTC program and awarded a Certificate.
Advance Fire Fighting

Marine Training Centre is working hard in all required standards and training in order to offer new courses for our seafarers within the international maritime scope. One of the course offered this year is Advance Fire Fighting which is needed by officers and ratings who are currently working on SPMS ships. Three months ago, such course has been conducted for deck and engine officers for revalidation and they gained certificates as per STCW 95. Since then, the institute can offer this course in the forthcoming future for officers and ratings to be conducted in Tarawa.

MTC New Buildings and Galley renovation

This year has proved to be so much busier than last year. A whole lot of development projects have been witnessed since the beginning of this year and some of them will continue to the very end of the year.

Two of the major ones are construction of two new double story buildings and renovation of the existing galley. Additionally a few smaller extra projects have popped up while undergoing those major ones and all in all they will transform MTC into an institute comparable to world class standards.

Construction of the two new buildings started early February and completion is anticipated to be end of this year. In the two buildings together there will be 10 classrooms, two dorms for the boys and 1 dorm for the girls. There will also be two ship type cabins for stewards or stewardess training and both buildings will have toilet and shower facilities for trainees and instructors. These buildings are really unique in their own way especially by having a bridge to connect them and also having the outside of the brick walls varnished instead of being painted.

Renovation on the galley includes breaking down parts of the walls to increase window sizes, renewing electrical cables, renewing floor tiles which now extended to cover the walls up to one meter high, installing a new forced draught vent system and purchasing brand new basic galley equipments such as fridges, dish washers dough mixers and other small items. Work on this started in early August and is expected to be completed by end of September.

The smaller scale projects that were actually not part of the initial plan, popped up, are up-grading of MTC electrical wiring system which includes surveying all underground cables and putting it into MTC map, renewing old supply cables and distribution boxes. The other one being construction of MTC sewage system that
will be independent from the Central System for the Betio Town. All these projects are costing a lot of money and MTC is really grateful to NZAID and the New Zealand Government for their generous donation in providing initial funds and more so for approving further funds for the smaller pop up ones. MTC also wish to thank the contractors in advance, Craig Construction from New Zealand as the main contractor and ESL, New Zealand as the sub-contractor for the electrical side. A special thanks to these contractors for the many assistance they gave to MTC which were not part of the projects. Things like the use of their vehicles and other equipments, expert advice and many more. Thank you very much, Kam Batin Raba.
SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!!!!!!! TIABO