



# MARINA

The Quarterly Newsletter of  
the Hong Kong Institute of Marine Technology and the Hong Kong Joint  
Branch of "The Royal Institution of Naval Architects  
and The Institute of Marine Engineers"

香港海事科技學會及英國皇家造船師學會  
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## Shipping & Maritime News

### Study on the Demand for Ex-seafarers of The Port and Maritime Industry

With the aging population of local seafarers and ex-seafarers, the competitiveness in enhancing Hong Kong as an International Shipping Centre will be weakened. Some areas of concern had been reported in Vol.2 July 1999 and Vol.3 September 2000 issues of the "MARINA".

In recognizing the importance of the port and maritime industry and its contribution to Hong Kong's economy and employment opportunities, the Shipping Committee (SC) of the Port and Maritime Board (PMB) has been looking into matters that would enhance Hong Kong's position as a premier international shipping centre. One of the issues that the SC has identified is the almost total lack of new entrant seafaring officers in the past 10 years. It is common knowledge that ex-seafarers are indispensable to the proper operation of ports, associated maritime services (such as pilotage, ship survey etc) and the governmental bodies that oversee such operation. While reliance on recruitment of ex-seafarers from abroad may meet the short term requirement but it may prove unsustainable in terms of cost and competitiveness in maintaining Hong Kong as one of the world's largest container ports and a premier international shipping centre.

To address the lack of new entrant seafaring officers the Port and Maritime Board in its meeting on 9 November 2000 advised that a more detail **study** should be conducted to determine if the proposals submitted by the Marine Department on issues related to the supply and demand for seafarers and shipping technical professionals would be effective in attracting sufficient new entrants to meet the manpower requirement for ex-seafarers in the port and maritime industry (PMI).

#### **The Study Project**

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University was appointed to conduct the Consultancy Study on 15 January 2001. A steering group comprised of members from the shipowners, unions, learned institutions (HKJB, HKIMT, HKIE and NI),

government departments and chaired by a representative from Marine Department was formed to direct and oversee the Study. The Hong Kong Polytechnic University is expected to conclude its findings in April 2001 and present its findings to the Maritime Services Training Board, Shipping Committee and the Port and Maritime Board.

#### **Objective and Scope of the Study**

The objective of the study is to assess the manpower needs of the PMI for highly trained and qualified local ex-seafarers and to advise the measures to be taken by the government and the industry to attract sufficient new entrant seafaring officers. The study will only focus on the supply of ex-seafaring officers and ratings will not be included. The scope of study includes:

- Demand projection of ex-seafarers in the next ten years;
- Supply projection of new entrants/trainees in the next ten years;
- To assess the ex-seafarers' knowledge and skill required by the PMI;
- To assess the attitude of the industry to participate in training schemes, and the type and length of training required for seafaring trainees;
- To advise sustainable promotional measures to be adopted by the Government and the industry to attract new entrants.

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- To advise effective and sustainable measures to ensure abundant supply of well-trained and qualified ex-seafarers to meet demand of the PMI.
- To assess the disbenefit and loss of opportunities if there is no supply or insufficient supply of local ex-seafarers to meet the needs of the PMI.

### **Mr / Ms Logistics**

China's membership of WTO would mean full liberation of the Mainland's transport and warehousing sector. The Economic Services Bureau (ESB) is suggesting that there should be someone known as Mr / Ms Logistics in the Government to co-ordinate the public and private sector efforts to exploit the business opportunities available as China joins WTO. **This superman or superwoman is supposed to know everything how the air, land and sea transport work, the infrastructure involved including the use of IT to make Hong Kong the hub for import and export in the region.** The idea is good as long as an omnipotent administrative officer is found and given the mission. However there are indications that the ESB intends to eliminate some of the professional officers working for the Port and Maritime Board (PMB) in order to finance the post.

The approach suggests that the administrative masters in the Bureau tend to disparage the importance of professional input in supporting the work of the PMB. It appears that maritime professionals' contributions in making Hong Kong the largest container port and a world class-shipping centre is not appreciated by the high officials in the Government. Such an attitude and approach will certainly harm Hong Kong as a competitor in the international shipping community.



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## **HKIMT & HKJB News**

### **The 25th HKJB Annual General Meeting – 15 February 2001 Chairman's Report**

The year 2000 is over and also gone with the worries brought about by the Y2K Roll-over. The 2000/01 Committee has however been privileged to take the Hong Kong Joint Branch of the Royal Institution of Naval Architects and the Institute of Marine Engineers into the new challenges of the Millennium.

Upon my being elected the Chairman of the Committee in the Special Meeting held after the 24th AGM on 15 February 2000, I had pledged to offer my very best effort to lead the JB as local and overseas liaison on JB activities; to promote the maritime industries as well as to continue pursuing further achievement in better cooperation with the parent and other affiliated learning bodies. Although I have to admit that not very much had been done over the year as expected, apart from meeting every two months, Committee Members however did have a busy tenure to try offering as many programmes as possible to the benefit of our members in Hong Kong throughout the past one year.

These events are summarized at the following categories: –

#### ***Education & Student Affairs, Technical Meetings and Seminars***

- On 22 March 2000 and 26 April 2000 respectively, the JB member had been extended invitation to attend two paper presentations on the topics of "The Origins of Shipboard Outward Bound Training and Its Future Development" and "Piracy", organized by the Nautical Institute.
- On 5 May 2000 evening, Chairman along with 4 other Committee Members had spoken in the "Seminar on Career in Maritime Industries" organised by the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (Tsing Yi), which was attended by about 70 students.
- On 5 July 2000 in Shenzhun, a "Half-day Seminar on Shipbuilding and Shiprepairing" was jointly organized by the HKJB with Hong Kong Institute of Marine Technology and Shenzhun SNAME. 40 audiences had attended.





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- (iv) On 5 May 2000, a "Marine Student Project Presentation and Buffet Dinner" was arranged for three student groups from Hong Kong Technical College (Tsing Yi) and Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (Haking Wong) respectively, to present their final year study project at the Staff Mess of the Hong Kong Government Dockyard. The event had attracted over 60 participants.
- (v) On 28 September 2000, Mr. Robin Pickup, Senior Surveyor of Lloyds Register of Shipping had presented a paper on "Ballast Water Management", which was attended by 35 members and guests.
- (vi) On 16 October 2000, a one-day "Training Seminar for Professional Review Interviewers", provided by Mr. David LONG, Director, Professional Affairs of IMarE HQs and Mr. Peter SWINDLEHURST, previous Education & Training Executive of Engineering Council, was held at the Police Officers' Club to acquaint committee members with current Institute's interview standards and procedures to meet the SARTOR requirements as well as the associated interview techniques. This seminar was attended by a total of 12 members from JB Committee and representatives from HKIE and HKIMT.
- (vii) On 29 November 2000, Mr. John McKAY, Technical Services Manager of Lloyds Register of Shipping had presented a paper on "Transportation of Liquid Natural Gas by Sea" covering the development of LNG ships and the latest design practices, at the conference room of HKIE, which was attended by 45 professionals.
- (iii) The chairman had attended the "International Symposium on Marine Engineering-ISME 2000" held in Tokyo from 23-27 October on behalf of the HKJB.
- (iv) A "Signing Ceremony of the Memorandum of Agreement" with Guangdong SNAME was held on 3 November 2000. In this event, Mr. H. K. LEUNG, Vice Chairman of the JB Committee had led a delegation of 3 Committee Members plus three other representatives from HKIMT to take part.
- (v) The Annual Ball 2000 held at Sheraton Hotel on 25 November 2000 would probably be rated as the most successful event of the year. Ms Sandra LEE, Secretary for Economic Services of the HKSAR is the Guest of Honour for the evening. Mr. S. Y. TSUI, Director of Marine and the Hon. Mariam LAU, Member of the Legislative Council for the Transportation Constituency are also amongst the group of principal guests representing a wide cross-section of local maritime bodies and authorities. Thanks to Mr. Nelson YU, the Chairman of the Annual Ball Organising Committee and his team for the dedicated hardwork, also with the enthusiastic support from the maritime sector, a full house of 210 participants have made this Millennium Annual Ball a most memorable one.
- (vi) A "Millennium Friendship Games" was held on 16 December 2000 at Guangzhou Development Zone Stadium, close to Wenchong Shipyard. 18 members representing HKJB and HKIMT had played against our Guangdong SNAME counterparts in 11-a-side football and table tennis respectively. A draw score was resulted from the football match whereas the Joint Team had lost 3 to 4 in the table tennis game.

### ***Publicity - Social Relation and PRC Liaison Activities***

- (i) A "Chairman's Speech Evening" was held on 26 May 2000 at the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club, which enables committee members to meet with other supporting members of the maritime community in a less formal and relaxing atmosphere. This year 23 members and guests had attended.
- (ii) From 6-9 September 2000, a delegation of 30 marine engineering students of Delft University of Technology, Netherlands led by Professor Hengst had visited Hong Kong. JB had arranged a series of technical activities for them during the period as well as to assist coordinating their subsequent visiting programmes to Guangzhou and Shanghai, PRC with relevant SNAMEs concerned.

On the professional front, the JB has been actively playing a consultative role in various working and steering groups including maritime legislation on "Appointment of Registered Professional Engineers as Authorized Surveyor" and study on "The Manpower Demand for Ex-seafarers of the Port & Maritime and Related Service Industry in Hong Kong" etc.

Although having said that the JB's level of output in the past one year was not up to full swing as projected, I however have to thank all who have unselfishly devoted their valuable time and efforts to fulfil their obligation as committee members for an overall marvellous job well done, especially the Vice Chairman, Mr. H. K. LEUNG who is also the Chairman of the





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Publication & PRC Liaison Sub-Committee for keeping our quarterly Bulletin "MARINA" alive and lively; and for Mr. Michael LEE, our Hon. Secretary to master the cumbersome administrative and secretarial work in an exceptional order.

Last but not the least, record has shown that after taking out those unpaid memberships, the actual JB member strength in Hong Kong is on decline at about 520 against the figure of 583 in the previous year. Obviously something has to be done to narrow the discrepancy, if not too ambitious to revert the situation in the shortest span of time. Nevertheless, I have the confidence that with the continual dedicated support from those active members, the incoming 2001/02 Committee will have a great success ahead.

Finally, wish you all have a very prosperous "Year of the Snake".

#### **Millennium Friendship Games with Guangdong SNAME**

Over the past years, all our joint functions with Guangdong SNAME (GSNAME) were concentrated on technical conferences, seminars and visits to shipyards and engineering organizations. "We should not confine our activities in technical aspects only. In future, we should also explore other activities such as sports events to enhance our relationship" as remarked by Mr. H.K. LEUNG, Vice-Chairman of HKJB, during the ceremony after signing the "Memorandum of Agreement" with GSNAME on 3 November 2000. Everybody in the ceremony expressed strong interest and support to Mr. LEUNG's idea and was keen to arrange sports events as soon as possible for a change.

In a subsequent meeting with GSNAME and with the assistance of Mr. Michael LEE (Hon. Secretary of HKJB), a friendship sports programme was arranged among HKJB, HKIMT and GSNAME. A soccer match and a table tennis game were held on 16 December 2000 at the sports stadium near Wenchong Shipyard in Guangzhou. In order to have a fair competition, a special condition was also imposed that all soccer team players must either be committee members or otherwise members of over 35 year old (senior members team). In future, there may be a junior team if members are interested.

The event was actively participated by the members from Hong Kong which was led by Mr. S.Y. TSUI, Director of Marine. Mr. TSUI was also elected as the Captain for the soccer team, and the team players

included Messrs Ernest Chan, M.Y. CHAN, P.F. CHUN, W.K. HO, K.K. LI, C.K. MAK, Michael LEE, I.M. NG, K.S. SZETO, Alan TSANG and S.F. WONG.

The Captain for the table tennis team was Mr. H.K. LEUNG with Messrs Kit HUI, K.F. KWAN, F.P. LEUNG, Y.C. TANG and M.K. WONG as team players.

The team from GSNAME was led by their President Mr. GUAN Xue-zhong with other key members such as the Director of Wenchong Shipyard, Mr. XU Guo-qing and GSNAME Secretary General, Mr. LIN Liang-guang.

The soccer match was very exciting and played in a friendly manner. Most of our team players had to play the full two-30 minutes sessions because we had only one substitute. The match kicked off at about 4:30 p.m. The first goal came from GSNAME in the last 5 minutes of the first half. A corner kick passed the ball to the far end of our goal and then headed straight into our goal by one of their well-built players. At about 5 minutes before the end of the match, we scored our goal and maintained the score at 1:1 till the end of the match. Thanks to the tremendous efforts of all our team players and especially to our goalkeeper, Mr. Ernest CHAN, who performed extremely well in saving quite a number of attacks by the opposite side. By that time the night curtain dropped with limited vision which prevented us from a "goal kick" (drop dead) arrangement.

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Only five players from the table tennis team had participated the table tennis competition. It was also an exciting and friendly match with near scores. Although our players tried their very best effort to win at the table but the final result was 3:2, we lost marginally. Mr. S.Y. TSUI subsequently presented the table tennis trophy to the Winner – GSNAME on behalf of the organizing committee.

In view of the draw for the soccer match, all players insisted that another match should be held to decide the winner of the soccer trophy. It was agreed that the match replay would be held sometime in March to May in the year 2001.

As a concluding remark, the 1st sports event held between Hong Kong and Guangzhou was successful with high spirit. It had not only enhanced our relationship but also provided a good opportunity among our members of different disciplines to work as a team, which is easier to talk than action. Apart from organizing technical seminars to exchange technical experiences and knowledge among members of our institutions in future, similar social activities should also be held in parallel or in alternate sessions.

\*\*\* Reported by Ir Alan TSANG \*\*\*



Mr. M.K. Wong of HKJB in action



Ir S.Y. Tsui (2L) and Mr. Guan Xue-zhong (3L) presenting a trophy to the Hong Kong and Guangzhou table tennis team respectively



Memorial photo of both Hong Kong and Guangzhou football teams



Memorial photo of HKJB and HKMT football team



Memorial photo of both the Hong Kong and Guangzhou table tennis teams



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### **Maritime Student Prize 2001**

Four student prizes were awarded at the Annual General Meeting held on 15 February 2001 to maritime/mechanical students with merits in their courses. They are Messrs. LEE Chi Keung (Dip), YIU Kam Fai (Cert), LAM Chung Hei (HD), and CHOW Chung Wah (BEng) from three tertiary Institutions, i.e. Haking Wong Technical Institute, Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (Tsing Yi) and University of Hong Kong. These prizes are serving as an incentive and encouragement to students with good achievement in their course of training and also to arouse attention of young persons the importance of maritime profession development. This year's prizes were donated from our devoted members Dr Frank CHAO, Mr. FONG Wing Hong and Mr. I.M. NG. We thank them for their great support on this meaningful deed.

\*\*\* Reported by Ir Michael LEE \*\*\*



Prize winners with Ir Ernest Chan (L) and Ir H.K. Leung (C)



Prize winners with prize donors Mr. W.H. Fong (2L) and Dr Ir Frank Chao (C)

### **Obituary**

**Dr Frank Chao Sze-bang**

**JP BSc DSc CEng FHKIE FIMarE FRINA**

Members of Institutes, The Hong Kong Institute of Marine Technology and The Hong Kong Joint Branch of Royal Institution of Naval Architects and Institute of Marine Engineers, are in grave sorrow for the sudden death of Dr Frank S.B. CHAO in February 2001. Frank was Past Chairman and Committee member of both Institutes for many years. He gained respects from all of our members for his continuous commitments to the Institutes' activities and events. He contributed a great deal in the Maritime field for the past many decades. Through his connections and influence in the maritime circle, Frank served as a very effective bridge to societies and institutes of naval architects and marine engineers in the West and East, especially in Mainland China and Japan. Furthermore, Dr. CHAO was also a great supporter to marine student training and a generous donor for the student prizes for Hong Kong maritime students for many years. His passing away is a great loss to all of us and we all shall remember his many great deeds done to maritime world.



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## Port News

### Chinese Delegation Exchanges Views on Legislation

A delegation from the Maritime Safety Administration of the Ministry of Communications visited the Marine Department from January 17 - 18, 2001 and exchanged views on the formulation and administration of maritime laws and other related maritime operations.

The five-man delegation was headed by Deputy Director General of the Tianjin Maritime Safety Administration, Mr. LI Guoxiang. Other delegation members included Mr. MIAO Jun and Mr. WANG Zhenzhou of Tianjin Maritime Safety Administration, Mr. HE Yunpeng of Maritime Safety Administration and Mr. CHEN Wenxiao of Fujian Maritime Safety Administration.

The delegation was welcomed by the Director of Marine, TSUI Shung-yiu, on the morning of the first day and was briefed by the Deputy Director of Marine, Mr. TSANG Man-ching, on the Marine Department's organizational structure and areas of work. This was followed by discussions on the legislation procedures of the Hong Kong maritime laws and environmental protection in the port of Hong Kong.

In the afternoon, the discussion concentrated on the implementation of the maritime laws including Port State Control, Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 (STCW 1978), Flag State Implementation and the International Safety Management (ISM).

On the second day, the delegation visited the Maritime Emergency and Rescue Co-ordination Centre, Vessel Traffic Centre and Kwai Chung Marine Traffic Control Station where they were briefed on their operations.

### Arrangements to Enhance Marine Traffic Safety

Speaking at the Commendation for Bravery Presentation Ceremony on 9 March 2001, Mr. TSUI said the Marine Department kept under review all related policies and

legislation to ensure the safety of all ships and their passengers on board when navigating within Hong Kong waters that new legislation would be enacted to restrict the movement of vessels in Kap Shui Mun Channel to enhance marine traffic safety.

"The new law, expected to be in place this year, will restrict vessels exceeding 10 metres to sail through the channel in a southeasterly direction only," Mr. TSUI said.

Meanwhile, Marine Department's Harbour Patrol Section would continue with their efforts in enforcing the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, he added.

He also talked on the progress of a \$226 million project to replace and upgrade the existing vessel traffic services system.

"Installation and testing of the new equipment is expected to start in May for completion by the end of this year. The Vessel Traffic Centre will then be able to regulate, track and monitor the movement of vessels in Hong Kong waters more effectively and further reduce marine accidents," Mr. TSUI said.

On the educational measures, Mr TSUI said that the Training Unit of the department's Port Control Division would organise seminars for the related sectors to raise their awareness and concern on marine safety.

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## Article of Leisure

### Court Docket 12659 – Case of the Pregnant Lady

A lady about eight months pregnant got on a bus. She noticed the man opposite her was smiling at her. She immediately moved to another seat.

This time the smile turned into a grin, so she moved again.

The man seemed more amused.

When, on the fourth move, the man burst out laughing, she complained to the driver and he had the man arrested. The case came up in court.

The judge asked the man (about 20 years old) what he had to say for himself.

The man replied, "Well your Honour it was like this : When the lady got on the bus, I couldn't help but notice her condition. She sat under a sign that said, **"The Double Mint Twins are coming"** and I grinned. Then she moved and sat under a sign that said, **"Slogan's Liniment will reduce the swelling"**, and I had to smile. Then she placed herself under a sign that said, **"William's Big Stick Did the Trick"**, and I could hardly contain myself. BUT your Honour when she moved the fourth time and sat under a sign that said, **"Goodyear Rubber could have prevented this Accident"**... I just lost it."

"CASE DISMISSED", the judge announced.

\*\*\* From Mr. K.K. YAP \*\*\*

All correspondence should be addressed to the Hon Secretary, Hong Kong Joint Branch of RINA and IMarE, G.P.O. Box 2516, Central, Hong Kong, or by facsimile to Fax no. (852) 2573 6966. All matters pertaining to MARINA should be addressed to the above contact address.

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