



THE

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MARINA LAUNCHES ITS TRAINING INSTITUTE IN BACOLOD CITY



MARINA Training Institute (MarTI) located in the four-story MARINA Extension Office in Region 6 building situated inside the Panaad Park in Barangay Mansilingan, Bacolod City.

The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), through a virtual soft launching, has announced last 11 February 2021, the opening of the MARINA Training Institute (MarTI) located in the four-story MARINA Extension Office in Region 6 building situated inside the Panaad Park in Barangay Mansilingan, Bacolod City.

The MarTI, as an academic arm of the MARINA, is envisioned to be the country's Maritime Innovation and Knowledge Center under the Program 8 of the 10-Year Maritime Industry Development Plan – providing, not only national, but global maritime leadership training.

The operationalization of MarTI is aimed at improving the capacity of MARINA and other partners to innovate and operate modern technologies, to spearhead programs to help the country tackle the changing trends in the maritime industry, and to serve as a systematic educational and training system and facilities for all maritime professionals. Hence, the conduct of research shall form part of the

operation of the MarTI to ensure that its plans and programs are responsive to the needs of industry.

The soft launching program was attended by members of the Maritime Industry Board and Management, and representatives from various sectors of the industry.

In the keynote message delivered by MARINA Administrator Vice Admiral Robert A Empedrad, he related how fast knowledge expands and how swift modernization happens specially in the development and advancement in communications technology as applied to navigation.

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MARINA Administrator Robert A Empedrad stresses the importance of establishing more avenues for maritime education and training during his message for the virtual soft launching of the MARINA Training Institute (MarTI) located at the MARINA Regional Office – Western Visayas in Bacolod City.

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The Editorial Board welcomes contributions. Interested officials and employees are invited to submit their articles through email address miss@marina.gov.ph.

Members of the Editorial Board assume full responsibility for all articles and contributions published in this Newsletter.

MARINA LAUNCHES ITS TRAINING...

"Maritime sector is a very progressive and fast-paced industry; and if MARINA and its stakeholders will not act accordingly, the Philippine Maritime Industry will be left behind. That's is the reason for the immediate operationalization of the MarTI," Administrator Empedrad pointed out.

Deputy Administrator for Operations (DAO) Engr. Nannette Z. Villamor-Dinopol, meanwhile, expressed compliments not only for the officials and staff of the agency but also for all stakeholders and partners who participated during the formulation of the MIDP.

"If the MarTI is to take firm roots in the Philippines and grow in continuity, what is needed most is the abiding interest of everyone and the partnership of maritime stakeholders. Through the MarTI, the MARINA will be committed to an ever-prospering bond of knowledge and innovation collaboration between the government and its partners in the years to come," Engr. Dinopol said.

For its maiden project, the MarTI previously hosted a 3-day webinar on the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, which is based on the MEPSEAS Training Course on the Legal Implementation of the Ballast Water Management Convention. It is designed to provide a common set of knowledge and skills to all participants to enable them to take appropriate action in their various capacities towards the implementation of the Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention.

The MarTI, which will be headed by designated Officer-in-Charge Ms. Presca Lee B. Lugo, one of the Maritime Education and Training Standards Supervisors of the MARINA STCW Office, will operate virtually in observance of safety and health protocols being implemented in line with the measures to control the spread of COVID-19. Ms. Lugo is also the Chairperson of Expert Group 2 of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Seafarers Excellence Network or the APEC SEN Expert Group 2, the group designated for Seafarers' Better Welfare.

MARINA SWEARS INTO OATH 9 ALMA OFFICIALS AND TRUSTEES

The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), led by Administrator Vice Admiral Robert Empedrad, together with the Association of Licensed Manning Agencies (ALMA) Maritime Group, Inc., held an oath-taking ceremony last 29 January 2021, at the MARINA Central Office.

The oath-taking ceremony was attended by the following (ALMA) Maritime Group, Inc. officers and trustees:

Ms. Cristina Garcia - President
 CE Jessie Rex Martin - Treasurer
 Atty. Iris Baguilat - Corporate Secretary
 Capt. Jose Remo Librodo- Trustee
 Mr. Sergio Sarno - Trustee
 Capt. Rommel Salinas - Trustee
 Capt. Gregory Nick Sevilla - Trustee
 Capt. Nathaniel Dojillo - Trustee
 Atty. Julius Yano - Trustee

In his message, Administrator Empedrad conveyed his appreciation for the support extended by the Association to the MARINA and to the Filipino seafarers, especially at the peak of the implementation of community quarantine protocols to mitigate the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID19).

Administrator Empedrad also extolled them to remain committed and faithful to their sworn duties and responsibilities and solicited their support and participation in the implementation of the 10-Year Maritime Industry Development Plan (MIDP).

For her part, in an interview with the Manila Times,



MARINA Administrator Robert A Empedrad proudly poses with the officials and trustees of the Association of Licensed Manning Agencies (ALMA) Maritime Group, Inc.

ALMA President Cristina Garcia said that ALMA aided manning agencies, especially those who are small and medium-sized, to find implementing solutions to the newly introduced COVID-19 protocols.

"The earlier measures implemented by the government were created for the protection of the general public, some of these were not favorable and adaptable to the manning sector due to the peculiarity of our operation. The local manning agencies did not take these sitting down. We fought for you, and we fought really hard for the government to understand that our ultimate goal is to retain the employment of our Filipino seafarers," Garcia said in an interview with Manila Times, addressing the seafarers.



The officials and trustees of the Association of Licensed Manning Agencies (ALMA) Maritime Group, Inc. are at the forefront of helping licensed manning agencies implement COVID-19 protocols in the maritime sector.

MARINA SETS RULES, REGULATIONS FOR BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT

The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), through its Circular No. SR-2020-05, has set rules and regulations for the control and management of ships' ballast water and sediments to ensure that all Philippine Registered Ships plying in the international trade, as well as international ships plying Philippine waters, are compliant with the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 (BWM Convention).

The publication of the rules and regulations revolving around ballast water management also aligns with the Agency's mission to promote cleaner seas through sustainable and responsible maritime practices, and to implement effective measures to minimize the uptake and subsequent discharge of sediments and organisms, which may be invasive and eventually destroy indigenous marine ecosystems.

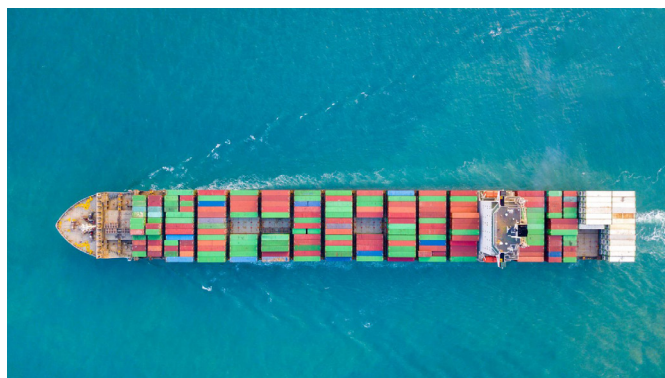
The regulation of ballast water is vital to the effectiveness and safety of shipping operations. Some of its essential features include reducing stress on a vessel's hull and decreasing the vibrations that can be felt by the crew aboard, improving their living conditions. However, data has also shown that ballast water has significant adverse effects on human health and the marine environment.

For this reason, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has adopted the BWM Convention, which regulates and prevents the unsupervised discharge of ballast water that contains harmful pathogens and aquatic organisms that may affect a specific region's biodiversity and marine wildlife.

The provisions outlined in the Circular apply to vessels capable of carrying ballast water and those who are authorized to operate in international waters. However, some ships are categorized as exempted from the regulations. These include vessels operating exclusively in waters under the Philippines'

jurisdiction, operating under the authority of regional agreements, pleasure crafts that are less than 50 meters in overall length, and ships that are engaged in search and rescue operations.

MC No. SR-2020-05 requires all ships that are plying Philippine waters to carry the International Ballast Water Management Certificate (IBWMC) for ships plying the flag of countries party to the Convention. Aside from this, ships are also required to have an approved Ballast Water Management Plan and a Ballast Record Book on board.



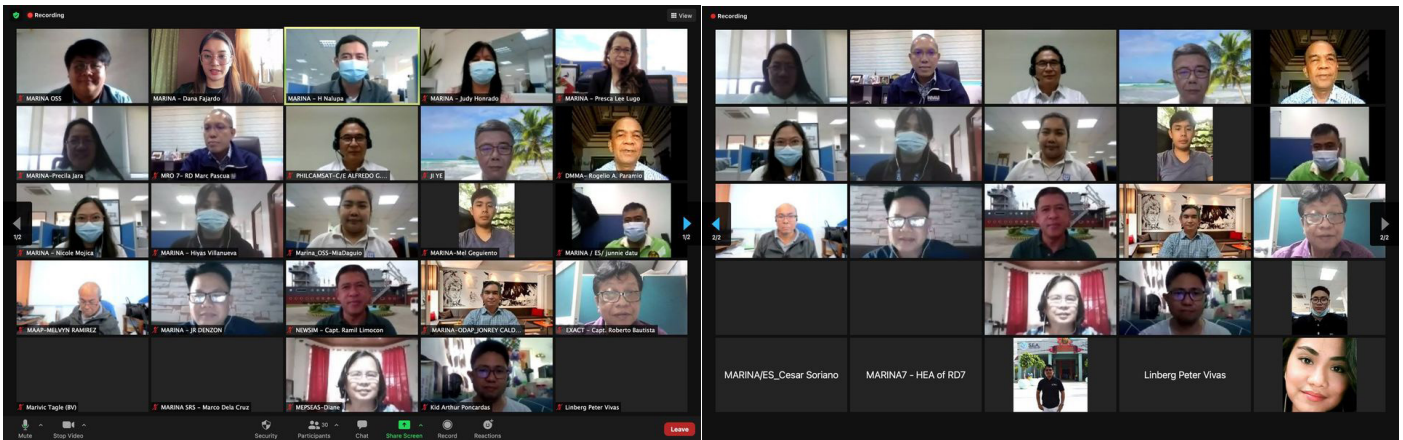
An International Ballast Water Management (BWM) Certificate will be issued after the Administration conducts a BWM survey for newly constructed ships or when there is a request for an exemption from the Circular. BWM surveys will also be conducted for existing vessels that are installing a Ballast Water Treatment System or Ballast Water Management system.

A BWM Certificate will be valid five (5) years from the date of issue and will continue to be valid only when it has undergone an annual endorsement by the MARINA or its recognized organizations. A new certificate will have to be issued if a BWM Certificate has not been endorsed after three (3) months of its anniversary date.

The Agency is also tasked to undertake random and periodic inspections of Philippine-Overseas Registered ships calling any Philippine ports to ensure that all are compliant with the regulations provided by MC No. SR-2020-05.

The MARINA continues to pursue efforts to promote sustainable and responsible shipping operations through the establishment of necessary procedures and issuances.

MARINA HOLDS SEMINAR ON BWM CONVENTION FOR MHEIs AND MTIs



Representatives from the PCG, MARINA, and various MHEIs listen on the discussion regarding the implementation of the BWM Convention and Anti-Fouling Systems Convention in the country.

Aiming to have a unified set of knowledge and understanding necessary in the implementation of the Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention in the Philippines between government agencies and partnered private stakeholders, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) held the Seminar on the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM Convention) last 08 to 10 February 2021 via video conference.

Graced by the Officer-In-Charge of the MARINA Maritime Training Institute (MARTI), Ms. Presca Lee B. Lugo highlighted that this seminar is based on the Marine Environment Protection of the Southeast Asian Seas (MEPSEAS) Training Course wherein it aims to raise the awareness of the stakeholders, particularly of the Maritime Higher Education Institutions (MHEIs) and Maritime Training Institutions (MTIs) to the said Convention, and to come up with an action plan on how the provisions of the BWM Convention be incorporated in their curriculum courses.

The seminar proper began with the MEPSEAS National Expert and Director of the MARINA Region VII, Engr. Marc Pascua, providing an overview of the seminar as well as of the MEPSEAS Project. Dir. Pascua shared that the main purpose of the said project is to ratify and implement high priority instruments related to marine environmental protection, which includes the BWM Convention, to its partnering countries and

to have a legislation that will support their implementation.

In his presentation, Dir. Pascua underscored that the implementation of the BWM Convention and Anti-Fouling Systems Convention in the country is necessary, as the latter heavily relies on shipping for transportation of persons and goods. The Philippines is also one of the 18 mega-biodiverse countries immensely rich in terrestrial and marine biodiversity. Moreover, Dir. Pascua likewise discussed the other important factors to consider for the effective implementation of the BWM Convention such as the ratification process, compliance, enforcement, and actions/proposals.

Engr. Jose Romualdo Q. Denzon of the MARINA – Maritime Education and Training Standards Supervisors (METSS) presented the issues and international response of the BWM Convention. He also added in his discussion the various Ballast Water Management options, standards for the Ballast Water Management, and compliance monitoring and enforcement.

Mr. Jimmy Ye Ji, Director of the Operations Support within South East Asia Region Marine and Offshore Manager of the Bureau Veritas, reported the technical provisions and guidelines of the BWM Convention as well as the obligations of the flag, port, and coastal States under the said Convention.

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MARINA HOLDS SEMINAR ON BWM...

Meanwhile, Director of the MARINA – Franchising Service, Atty. Maximo I. Bañares, presented the discussion on the guide to drafting a BWM Act.

On the other hand, MEPSEAS National Consultant, Ms. Diana Factuar, and Engr. Joshua Rafale S. Tolin of the MARINA – Shipyards Regulation Service, reported on the National Strategic Action Plan for the implementation of the BWM Convention and the rules and regulations on the control and management of ships' ballast water and sediments in compliance to the said Convention, respectively.

Lastly, PO2 Franz Jomel M Badajos PCG, Senior Port State Control Officer from the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), discussed the port state control procedures for the BWM Convention.

The MARINA Deputy Administrator for Operations, Engr. Nannette Z Villamor – Dinopol, concluded the said seminar by expressing her gratitude to the participants and resource speakers and by reiterating our obligation to the marine environment.

"I would like to encourage everyone to continue

being stewards of this social and shared responsibility of strengthening our commitment in protecting our marine environment," Engr. Dinopol highlighted.

The said seminar is attended by the representatives from the PCG, MARINA, and various MHEIs and MTIs. BWM Convention

The International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 or the Ballast Water Management Convention (BWM Convention) is adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in order to help prevent the spread of potentially harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens in ships' ballast water. The said Convention entered into force globally on 08 September 2017.

In compliance with the said Convention, the MARINA recently published Circular No. SR-2020-05 to set rules and regulations for the control and management of ships' ballast water and sediments to all Philippine-registered ships plying in the international trade as well as international ships plying in Philippine waters.

The said issuance is aligned with MARINA's objective of having an efficient shipping industry and environmentally sound maritime industry.

REGIONAL NEWS

MRO 9 ACQUIRES OFFICE SPACE FOR MARINA DAPITAN EXTENSION OFFICE

The MARINA Regional Office IX (MRO 9), led by Regional Director Engr. Rizal Victoria made a courtesy call on Dapitan City Mayor Hon. Rosalina Jalosjos last 19 February 2021.

Hon. Mayor Jalosjos has approved the free use of office space for the MARINA Dapitan Extension Office. Thereafter, a simple turn-over ceremony was held together with Dapitan City Agriculturist Cyril Patangan.

The office space is ready for MARINA personnel to occupy and it is strategically located in the city where it is accessible for both seafarers and other stakeholders in the area.

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The establishment of the MARINA Regional Office 9 - Dapitan Extension Office signifies another step towards improving services provided for seafarers and maritime stakeholders in Dapitan City.

MRO 9 ACQUIRES OFFICE SPACE...

The MRO 9 expressed its gratitude to the Local Government of Dapitan City for all the assistance it has provided for the MARINA personnel. This development will greatly improve the quality of services provided for seafarers, shipping companies, and other stakeholders.



MRO 9 Regional Director Engr. Rizal Victoria, together with Dapitan City Mayor Hon. Rosalina Jalosjos and Dapitan City Agriculturist Cyril Patangan, during a simple turn-over ceremony for the office space.

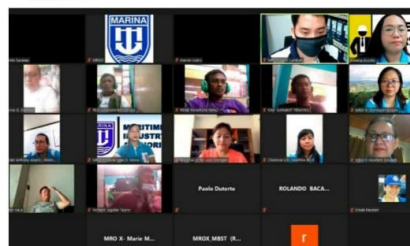
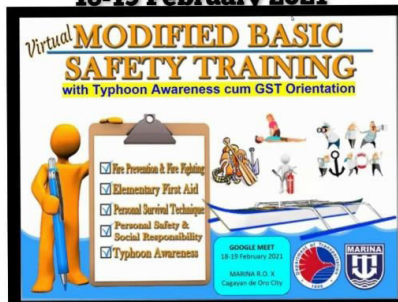
MRO 10 CONDUCTS TWO-DAY VIRTUAL MSBT TRAINING

The MARINA Regional Office X (MRO 10) commenced a 2-day virtual Modified Basic Safety Training (MBST) last 18 February 2021, with Cong. Paolo Z. Duterte, 1st District Representative of Davao City, as one of the trainees.

The training, which runs from 18-19 February 2021 and being delivered virtually, is an initiative to respond to the need of the fishing operators, as well as the recreational boat operators, for an added pool of maritime manpower.

The training was opened with a warm welcome from the Regional Director, Felisa N. Orongan, emphasizing that despite the pandemic, the MARINA will continue to deliver this kind of service to the stakeholders. It was then followed by a message from Cong. Duterte, expressing his gratitude and support to MARINA for organizing the said training.

Virtual Modified Basic Safety Training MARINA RO 10 18-19 February 2021



Cong. Paolo Z. Duterte, 1st District Representative of Davao City, graces the MRO 10's virtual Modified Basic Safety Training (MBST) as one of the attendees.

For this batch, a total of 10 participants were registered, which shall complete the four (4) basic modules: Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting; Elementary First Aid; Personal Survival Technique, Personal Safety and Social Responsibility; and the Typhoon Awareness & Preparedness. An orientation on Gender and Development (GAD) will also be included to comply with the agency's GAD Plans and Programs.

The MARINA Regional Office 10 is hopeful that through the virtual training, boat operators and their crews will be encouraged to join and comply with the requirements of the Administration.

MRO 9 FACILITATES INFO CAMPAIGN FOR STAKEHOLDERS IN DOMESTIC SHIPPING

The MARINA Regional Office IX (MRO 9) conducted an information campaign and discussion of the MARINA Circulars related to wooden-hulled ships carrying passengers, recreational boats, and boatbuilding. The event was held at the Amphitheater in Dapitan City Hall, Zamboanga del Norte last 19 February 2021.

Representatives from the Dapitan City Agriculture Office, Dapitan City Tourism Office, Coast Guard
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MRO 9 FACILITATES INFO CAMPAIGN...

Station Zamboanga del Norte, 904th Maritime Police, and the Zamboanga del Norte Provincial Tourism Office were present during the affair. Additionally, motorbanca owners and boatbuilders from Dapitan City, Dipolog City, and Sindangan were also in attendance.

The same activity was also conducted on 18 February 2021, at the MARINA Pagadian Extension Office. Representatives from Pagadian City Tourism Office, Payao Municipal Tourism Office, and the Zamboanga del Sur Provincial Tourism Office participated in the discussions. Additionally, boatbuilders and shipyard owners from Pagadian City and Tukuran also benefited from the campaign.



Attendees actively participate in the discussion and also get informed about the MARINA Circulars concerning wooden-hulled ships carrying passengers, recreational boats, and boatbuilding.

MRO 4 ATTENDS LAUNCHING FOR RORO PASSENGER VESSELS MV SANTA BRIGIDA AND MV SANTA ALBERTA

The MARINA Regional Office IV (MRO 4) attended the Montenegro Shipping Lines, Inc's (MSLI) launching ceremony for RoRo passenger vessel, MV Santa Brigida, and the keel launching of RoRo passenger vessel MV Santa Alberta. The event was last 15 February 2021, at the San Pedro Shipyard in Lucena City.

As one of the guest speakers of the said event, MRO 4 Regional Director Emmanuel B. Carpio applauded the efforts of the San Pedro Shipyard together with MSLI for their tremendous accomplishment. He noted that the launching of the new RoRo vessel contributes to the 10-Year Maritime Industry Development Plan (MIDP). He also expressed his unwavering support for the company's similar activities in the near future.

MV Santa Brigida is a 72-meter passenger RoRo vessel that was locally built by the San Pedro Shipyard, Corp. The said vessel has an estimated service speed of 13 knots and can accommodate up to 17 buses and 390 passengers. The construction of this state-of-the-art vessel was commenced on 18 June 2019 and completed last 15 February 2020.

Meanwhile, MV Santa Alberta is an 81-meter passenger RoRo vessel with an estimated service speed of 13-14 knots. It can accommodate up to 17 buses' worth of cargoes.



The addition of new RoRo passenger vessels aligns with the 10-Year Maritime Industry Development Plan's vision to develop domestic shipping in the Philippines.

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