



THE

MARINA NEWSLETTER

July 2021

VOL III No. 7 | Official Publication of the Maritime Industry Authority | Republic of the Philippines

MARINA ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICIALS MEET WITH CEBU MARITIME STAKEHOLDERS; REASSURE SAFE, EFFICIENT, ECONOMICAL SHIPPING FOR RIDING PUBLIC

As part of the efforts toward building a sustainable maritime recovery from the adverse effects of COVID19 pandemic, MARINA Administrator Vice Admiral Robert A Empedrad AFP (Ret), together with Deputy Administrator for Operations Nanette Z. Villamor-Dinopol, STCWO Executive Director VADM Rene V Medina AFP (Ret), STCWO Deputy Executive Director Capt Jeffrey Solon, outgoing MRO VII Regional Director Engr. Marc Anthony P. Pascua, and incoming MRO VII Regional Director Atty. Manuel C. Portus, met with the maritime stakeholders of Cebu and also checked one of the biggest brand new vessel of Trans-Asia Shipping Lines, Inc. MV "TRANS-ASIA 21" last 22 July 2021 at Pier 4, Cebu Ports Authority in Cebu City.

On 23 July 2021, they also got onboard in one of the vessels of the leading shipping company of Cebu, Cokaliong Shipping Lines, Inc.. The company is one of the ideal shipping operators in the domestic shipping industry. With cooperation with MARINA, they are committed to give excellent and quality services for our passengers and shippers with their complete satisfaction in mind.

The inspection of the vessels reassure the riding public that safe, efficient and economical shipping are available in order to maintain unhampered delivery of essential goods, as well as transport of people in the parts of the country despite imposed stricter travel restrictions.



MARINA Officials, led by Administrator Robert A Empedrad, together with DOTr Secretary Arthur Tugade, check one of biggest brand new vessel of Trans-Asia Shipping Lines, Inc. MV "TRANS-ASIA 21" at Pier 4, Cebu Ports Authority in Cebu City.

INSIDE STORIES

MARINA RELEASES LIST OF AUTHORIZED ACCREDITATION CENTERS

EMPEDRAD ADMINISTERS OATH TAKING CEREMONY FOR NEWLY APPOINTED MARINA OFFICIALS, PERSONNEL

MARINA CONGRATULATES 33 PASSERS OF 2021 NAVAL ARCHITECTURE EXAM DURING SONAME TECHNICAL LEARNING

MARINA REGIONAL OFFICE IV INAUGURATES ADDITIONAL SATELLITE OFFICE IN REAL, QUEZON

MARINA REGIONAL OFFICE IV LEADS TURNOVER CEREMONY FOR NEW LUCENA EXTENSION OFFICE

MARINA, ALMA WELCOME 289 STRANDED FILIPINO SEAFARERS

MARINA CONVENES 6TH INTER-AGENCY TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG) MEETING ON IMSAS

NEW NORMAL PROTOCOLS: LET US KEEP EVERYONE SAFE AND HEALTHY



**WEAR FACE MASK
AND FACE SHIELD**



**PRACTICE SOCIAL
DISTANCING**



**ALWAYS WASH
YOUR HANDS**

EDITORIAL BOARD

TRETCH BOY I. MELARPES
Editor-in-Chief

KIARA ELISE Y. SOLIVA
Associate Editor

LLYNETTE SHIELA R. BINASOY
Senior Editor

BUENA R. RAMOS
Managing Editor

MARIA KRIZEL HIYAS H. VILLANUEVA
JOANA ARIZA JOY S. CRUZ
TIFFANY R. PUNZALAN
MARIA BIANCA A. LEE
Staff Writers

JOHN VICTOR N. TORRES
Graphics and Lay-Out Artist

LUISITO U. DELOS SANTOS
*Adviser as Officer-in-Charge,
Planning and Policy Service*

EDITORIAL POLICY

The MARINA Newsletter is published monthly by the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA). Write-ups or opinions expressed in this publication are exclusively and solely by the writers and they do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Agency on relevant issues.

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 RELEASES LIST OF AUTHORIZED ACCREDITATION CENTERS

The practical assessment scenarios of the following Assessment Centers (ACs) have been validated by the MARINA Board of Examiners and are compliant with the revised competency mapping issued under MARINA Advisory 2020-87.

As of 30 June 2021, the below listed ACs are authorized to conduct practical assessments of Officers under the New System.

Effective 01 July 2021, ACs not included in the list must cease conducting assessments of Officers under the new system and may only resume once granted the required approval.

**NOTICE TO SEAFARERS AND ALL CONCERNED**

Name of Assessment Centers	Level of Responsibility					
	ML-Deck	ML-Engine	OL-Deck	OL-Engine	ETO	GMDSS for Radio Operator
National Capital Region						
1. ASSESSMENT & RESEARCH CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES, INC.						✓
2. COMPETENT MARITIME PROFESSIONAL & SEA STAFF TRAINING CENTER INC. (COMPASS)		✓	✓	✓		
3. EXCELLENT STAR MARITIME CENTER, INC.						✓
4. FAR EAST MARITIME FOUNDATION, INC. - MANILA		✓	✓	✓	✓	
5. FEATI MARITIME TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER	✓		✓			

Name of Assessment Centers	Level of Responsibility					
	ML-Deck	ML-Engine	OL-Deck	OL-Engine	ETO	GMDSS for Radio Operator
National Capital Region						
7. MARIANA ACADEMY OF MARITIME STUDIES, INC.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8. MARITECH MARITIME TRAINING STUDIES AND MANNING SERVICES, INC. - MANILA	✓	✓	✓	✓		
9. NAVIGATOR INTERNATIONAL MARITIME TRAINING & ASSESSMENT CENTER, INC.	✓	✓	✓	✓		
10. NEW SIMULATOR OF THE PHILIPPINES, INC. - MAKATI	✓	✓	✓	✓		
11. PROTECT MARINE DECK AND ENGINE OFFICERS OF THE PHILS., INC. - MANILA	✓	✓	✓	✓		
12. SEA QUEST MARITIME TRAINING, INC.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
13. UNITED MARINE TRAINING CENTER, INC.					✓	
Region VII						
14. CEBU RELIABLE & EXCELLENT SEAFARERS TRAINING CENTER, INC. (CREST)		✓		✓		
15. INTEGRATED MARITIME PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT AND TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS (IMPACTS)		✓		✓		✓
16. PROTECT MARINE DECK AND ENGINE OFFICERS OF THE PHILS., INC. - COLON		✓		✓		

EMPEDRAD ADMINISTERS OATH TAKING CEREMONY FOR NEWLY APPOINTED MARINA OFFICIALS, PERSONNEL



MARINA Administrator Robert Empedrad, together with newly-appointed officials and personnel, during the oath taking ceremony on 07 July 2021 at the MARINA Central Office.

Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) Administrator Vice Admiral Robert A Empedrad AFP (Ret) administered an oath taking ceremony for newly appointed MARINA officials and personnel.

The MARINA has once again strengthened its workforce by appointing Mr. Arnie F. Santiago as the Director II of the Enforcement Service (ES); Ms. Cheryl V. Pascua as the Planning Office V of the Project Planning and Development Division of the Planning and Policy Service (PPS); Ms. Geraldina E. Evangelista as the Chief Maritime Industry Development Specialist of the Ship Registration and

Documentation Division of the Domestic Shipping Service (DSS); and Mr. Ronaldo P. Bandalaria as the Chief Maritime Industry Development Specialist as well of the Franchises Supervision and Regulation Division of the Franchising Service (FS).

This initiative of filling up vacant plantilla positions is also part of Administrator's 10-point agenda which is the strengthening of the MARINA organization to promote efficiency as a sustainable approach to serving maritime stakeholders with fast and reliable services.



ITF Seafarers Trust photo competition winner Aljon Manlangit, together with his fellow Filipino seafarer competitor JhayAy Vispo, paid a courtesy call on MARINA Administrator Vice Admiral Robert A Empedrad AFP (Ret) on 02 July 2021. STCWO Executive Director, VADM Rene Medina was also present.

Administrator Empedrad congratulated the feat of the two Filipino seafarers for winning the competition, entitled "Out of Sight Not Out of Mind competition," by showing their skills, creativity, as well as excellent storytelling in terms of photography.

MARINA CONGRATULATES 33 PASSERS OF 2021 NAVAL ARCHITECTURE EXAM DURING SONAME TECHNICAL LEARNING

The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), through Administrator Vice Admiral Robert A Empedrad AFP (Ret), congratulated the 33 passers of this year's Naval Architecture Examination during the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers (SONAME) Technical Learning – CPD 2021-01 on 01 July 2021, via Zoom platform.

With the theme "On the Path to Maritime Recovery," the said annual technical learning, which was also led by SONAME Chairman Engr. Sammuel Lim and President Engr. Rizalito A. Lanoy, aims to give updates about the latest trends and insights in Philippine shipping and help participants become equipped to take advantage of the maritime recovery as COVID-19 vaccine roll-outs improve.

On the other hand, for the part of Naval Architects, this will also earn them Continuing Professional Development (CPD) units in compliance with the present Professional Regulations Commission policy for SONAME members.

During his keynote speech, Administrator Empedrad congratulated the passers, emphasizing that they may serve the nation with integrity and professionalism, as well as the Agency being in advantage for having them onboard. He also mentioned that a good number of technical personnel are registered Naval

Architects and also members of SONAME, pointing out that out of 1,037 naval architects in the country, 45 of them are serving with the MARINA — three of whom are heads of offices.

"They are not only experts in their field but also dedicated and hardworking professionals. They craft our technical policies in line with local and international standards and conventions," Administrator Empedrad shared.

The technical learning also covered several topics which were introduced by various resource speakers such as "Game Changing Maritime Policies You Need To Know – Ballast Water Management, Anti-Fouling Convention, Sulfur Cap, and Ship Recycling," which was tackled by MARINA Shipbuilding & Ship Repair Service (SRS) and Maritime Safety Service (MSS) Director Engr. Ramon Hernandez; "Austal Presentation – On Their Catamaran Newbuildings" by Austal Philippines President Mr. Wayne Murray; and "Building The Next Generation of Naval Vessels" by Abu Dhabi Ship Building, United Arab Emirates (UAE) Chief Executive Officer Mr. David Massey. Several technical presentations were also presented by other resource persons from different countries.

The MARINA, together with the whole maritime sector, aims to expand the capability and capacity of shipyards and this entails the training of world-class maritime professionals in the construction and design of ships as the Agency works toward transforming the Philippines into a go-to destination for ship building and ship repair.

The SONAME, which is a regular member of the MARINA Board, has been cooperating with MARINA in providing capacity building activities for its naval architects, as well as other engineers involved in the regulation of the country's ship building, ship repair, ship recycling industry.



MARINA Administrator Robert A Empedrad AFP (Ret) congratulates the 33 passers of this year's Naval Architecture Examination during the SONAME Technical Learning – CPD on 01 July 2021 via Zoom platform.

Like or follow us on our social media accounts and website:

   DOTrMARINAPH  marina.gov.ph

MARINA REGIONAL OFFICE IV INAUGURATES ADDITIONAL SATELLITE OFFICE IN REAL, QUEZON



The MARINA Regional Office IV - Batangas City, led by Regional Director Engr. Emmanuel B. Carpio, spearheads the inauguration of the additional MARINA satellite office located in Real, Quezon on 21 July 2021.

After coordinating with the Local Government Unit (LGUs) in Real, the MARINA Regional Office IV (MRO 4) - Batangas City, led by Regional Director Engr. Emmanuel B. Carpio, successfully inaugurates the Agency's additional satellite office located in Real Quezon on 21 July 2021.

The 15-square meter office was donated by Hon. Diana Abigail Diestro Aquino, Municipal Mayor of Real, to the MRO 4 to help ensure that MARINA services will be available for operators residing in the far-flung areas of Quezon Province.

The event started with a holy mass followed by welcoming remarks and messages from esteemed officials including Mayor Diana Aquino, members of the Sangguniang Bayan of Real, and MRO 4 Regional Director Carpio.

During the inauguration, a ribbon-cutting was initiated by Director Carpio, followed by a holy mass held in honor of the event.

Chairperson-SB Committee on Transportation and Communication Hon. Noime Azcaraga concluded

the ceremony by expressing appreciation for the MRO 4 and relevant LGUs for the success of this event. During the address, Hon. Azcaraga also said that they were looking forward to more initiatives for the welfare of ship operators in the region.

The MRO 4's commitment to the development and expansion of its services is further realized with the addition of Real, Quezon Satellite Unit.



MARINA REGIONAL OFFICE IV LEADS TURNOVER CEREMONY FOR NEW LUCENA EXTENSION OFFICE



The MARINA Regional Office IV - Batangas City, led by Regional Director Engr. Emmanuel B. Carpio, during the turnover ceremony for the upcoming opening of the MARINA IV – Lucena Extension Office (LEXO) on 10 July 2021.

The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), through the MARINA Regional Office IV (MRO 4), led a turnover ceremony for the upcoming opening of the MARINA IV – Lucena Extension Office (LEXO) last Saturday, 10 July 2021, in line with its continued commitment to serve the riding public.

The building, which was formerly used as the Administration Building for the Philippine Fisheries Development Authority (PFDA), was leased to the MRO 4 for two (2) years.

MRO 4 Regional Director Engr. Emmanuel B. Carpio visited Lucena City last Friday, 09 July 2021 to facilitate the preparations for the official turnover ceremony. Additionally, Director Carpio also took this opportunity to properly brief the personnel who would soon be part of the regular workforce in the new office.

The ceremony was held last Saturday, 10 July 2021, and was participated by PFDA Port Manager Mr. Custodio Balaoing, who turned over the keys of the new office to Director Carpio. The ceremony also symbolized the passing of the building authority, unlocking new responsibilities for the MRO 4. The

activity was attended by personnel from the PFDA, incoming LEXO staff, and other maritime agencies and stakeholders.

This initiative corresponds to the first point of MARINA Administrator Robert A Empedrad's "10-Point Agenda for the Maritime Industry" which entails increasing the capacity of the various MARINA Regional Offices (MROs). Under Administrator Empedrad's command, the MARINA continues to work towards opening more satellite offices to make the Agency's services more accessible in various areas in the country.

The MARINA IV- Lucena Extension Office (LEXO) was established to specifically address the needs of stakeholders located in far-flung areas, such as the Quezon Province and nearby communities. The LEXO is scheduled to start accepting applications beginning on 01 September 2021.



MARINA, ALMA WELCOME 289 STRANDED FILIPINO SEAFARERS



The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), in coordination with the Association of Licensed Manning Agencies Maritime Group (ALMA), continues to ramp up its efforts to repatriate seafarers who are stranded overseas.

The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) Administrator Vice Admiral Robert A Empedrad AFP (Ret), together with Ms. Cristina Garcia, President of the Association of Licensed Manning Agencies Maritime Group (ALMA), led the welcoming of 289 Filipino seafarers who were previously stranded in various parts of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on 15 June 2021 at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

Administrator Empedrad and Ms. Garcia were joined by Capt Jeffrey P Solon, MARINA Deputy Administrator for Planning, and Mr. Paul Galvez of MARLOW Navigation.

This chartered flight from Dubai is part of the ALMA's initiatives to assist distressed seafarers who have been affected by lockdowns abroad. Although many of these seafarers have only been stranded for 2-3 months, some have reported having been stranded for more than 4 months already.

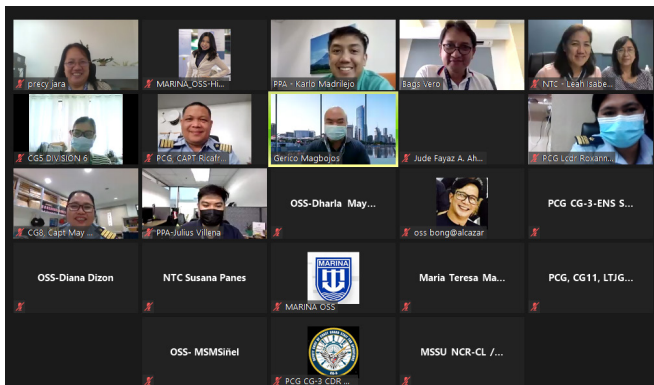
Following the travel restrictions imposed in India, Bangladesh, United Arab Emirates, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Oman, and Nepal last 01 May 2021, which was further extended until 30 June 2021, the ALMA Maritime Group organized non-Philippine government repatriation efforts following the implementation of the IATF Resolution 119 issued last 03 June 2021.

"Proper coordination with relevant government agencies and affected manning agencies for our succeeding repatriation efforts are being done. We want to end our seafarers' ordeal and bring them home to their families. They deserve to have a much-needed rest after a tough time serving on board ships." Garcia said.

"We welcome you back to your homeland. We have always dedicated our thoughts and prayers for you all while you were in foreign lands." Administrator Empedrad said to the repatriated seafarers. "I am grateful for the ALMA's continued dedication in helping ensure that our seafarers come back home safe and sound." He added, citing that the MARINA continues to push forward numerous initiatives for seafarers who have been hardly hit by the circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Agency has heeded up to accelerate the processing of seafarer-related documents through the automation of its systems. In addition to this, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be signed by the Department of Transportation (DOTr), MARINO Partylist, and the Associated Marine Officers and Seamen's Union of the Philippines (AMOSUP), promising the construction of a 300-bed capacity Seafarers' Condotel. The signing of the MOU was witnessed by the MARINA and the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) last 17 June 2021.

MARINA CONVENES 6TH INTER-AGENCY TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG) MEETING ON IMSAS



The 6th Inter-agency Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting on IMSAS is an avenue to discuss issues in preparation for the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) in 2022.

As part of the country's preparation for the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) in 2022, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), through the Overseas Shipping Service (OSS), convened the 6th Inter-agency Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting on IMSAS via video conference on 08 June 2021.

Chaired by the OSS Officer-In-Charge, Ms. Precila C. Jara, the TWG shared views on the revised Cross Table of Responsibilities and the Philippine Maritime Strategy on the Implementation and Enforcement of Relevant IMO Instruments for 2020-2024. The TWG likewise discussed the IMSAS Pre-Audit Questionnaire, IMSAS Assessment, and the consolidated IMSAS Quality Manual.

The 6th Inter-agency Technical Working Group Meeting was attended by the representatives from the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), National Telecommunications Commission (NTC), and MARINA.

MARINA REGIONAL OFFICE V CONTINUES CONDUCT OF MBST SESSIONS

In response to the needs and requests of local seafarers, fishing, and passenger vessel operators and stakeholders, the MARINA Regional Office V (MRO 5) continues to conduct Modified Basic Safety Training (MBST) sessions for seafarers in various areas. The MRO 5's areas of jurisdiction includes Albay, Masbate, Sorsogon, Camarines Sur, Camarines Norte, and Catanduanes (ALMASOR-CCC).

Last 11 June 2021, the MRO 5, through the Manpower Development Service (MDS) welcomed 25 trainees composed of boat owners, crew boat captains, and motormen who are all engaged in fishing, tourism and other maritime activities in the Bicol Region. The MBST training was scheduled to take place for two days concluded last 12 June 2021.

The training will be composed of five (5) MBST modules, including Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting, Elementary First Aid, Personal Survival Technique, Personal Safety and Social Responsibility, and Typhoon Awareness.

Participants and MRO 5 personnel strictly followed the necessary health protocols such as wearing of face masks and face shields and observing physical distancing.



The 25 attendees of the MBST session consist of boat owners, crew boat captains, and motormen.

Like or follow us on our social media accounts and website:




 DOTMARINAPH  marina.gov.ph