

## **Education and Careers Expo 2018**

### **Promoting maritime industry Cultivating young talents**

To promote the career opportunities in the maritime industry and encourage more young talents to join the industry, the MD and the Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board set up booths at the Education and Careers Expo 2018 from February 1 to 4 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Representatives from several grades of MD, namely Marine Officer (MO), Surveyor of Ships (SoS), Assistant Marine Controller and Marine Inspector II, were present at the booth to introduce to visitors their job duties in different units, share daily work experience, and explain entry requirement and career prospect with the visitors. Brand new videos were also shown at the booth showcasing the work of MO and SoS. In addition, guided by MD's staff, visitors could steer by themselves a full mission ship simulator when they could view traffic information using radar and track the location and trajectory on the Electronic Chart Display. Apart from experiencing seafaring like never before, visitors could also understand the importance of marine traffic safety.

### **Sing Tao Daily's Interview**

Besides, the Deputy Director (Special Duties), Mr Freely Cheng, Mr KT Poon (MO) and Mr KH Lam (SoS), were earlier interviewed by Sing Tao Daily highlighting the entry requirement of the two professional grades as well as the tips when attending the interview of the recruitment exercise. The video featuring part of the interview has been uploaded to the webpage of "JobMarket", and the hyperlink is <https://goo.gl/8Efyag>.

## **Grade Structure Review for Marine Officer and Surveyor of Ships Grades More flexibility to attract talents**

The Standing Commission on Civil Service Salaries and Conditions of Service (Standing Commission) submitted its report on the Grade Structure Review (GSR) for the Marine Officer (MO) and the Surveyor of Ships (SoS) grades of the MD to the Chief Executive on October 31, 2017. The Chief Executive-in-Council (CE-in-Council) decided on February 13, 2018 that the recommendations of the GSR for the MO and SoS grades in the report should be accepted in full. Those recommendations

included creating a new tier of assistant rank each for the MO and SoS grades, varying the entry requirement and pay scale of the MO rank and reducing the post-corporate membership experience requirement of the Ship stream of the SoS rank. The pay-related recommendations will take effect subject to the approval of the Legislative Council (LegCo). The CE-in-Council reckoned that the recommendations of the Standing Commission are well justified in tackling the serious recruitment difficulties and succession problems faced by the MO and SoS grades. The Government will seek the approval of LegCo for the recommendations as soon as possible.

Upon implementation of the recommendations, the MD will adopt a dual-track approach in recruitment, i.e. to recruit young people with good potential as the assistant rank of MO and SoS grades as well as well-experienced professionals to join the MO and SoS grades. It is believed that this will enable the MD to resolve the manpower shortage problem of the two grades in the long run.

### **Brand new video to promote professional grades of MD**

The brand new video to promote the professional grades of the MD, Marine Officer (MO) and Surveyor of Ships (SoS), has already been launched. Produced by the Efficiency Unit of the Chief Secretary for Administration's Office, the team has spent nearly half a year on the pre-production, selection of officers, script writing, venue arrangement, shooting as well as the post-production. The new promotion video has engaged new faces, ranging from the new recruits who have been working with the Department for about a year, namely Mr Kenneth Kwok Kar-him (MO), and Mr Mak Wing-tak (SoS), to those who have come before them just about three years ago, Ms Carmen Chan Ka-man (MO), and Mr Matthew Shu Bong-tai (SoS). They narrated in person their own stories of how they joined the maritime industry, introduced their job duties and shared their aspiration of working at the Department.

The video has been uploaded to the thematic webpage "Maritime Industry" of the Department. The hyperlink for the video of the Marine Officer is [https://www.mardep.gov.hk/theme/maritime\\_industry/video/video\\_mo\\_1\\_tc.html](https://www.mardep.gov.hk/theme/maritime_industry/video/video_mo_1_tc.html).

That for the Surveyor of Ships is [https://www.mardep.gov.hk/theme/maritime\\_industry/video/video\\_sos\\_1\\_tc.html](https://www.mardep.gov.hk/theme/maritime_industry/video/video_sos_1_tc.html).

## **Ms Tsui Mei-chun (MI II) shares her work in the China Ferry Terminal**

China Ferry Terminal (Terminal), one of the three ferry terminals managed by the MD, mainly provides berthing facilities for the cross-boundary ferry services to and from Macau and ports on the Mainland. It serves about 20,000 passengers per day. Ms Tsui Mei-chun, a Marine Inspector (MI) II working in the Terminal, has joined the MD for 8 years. She has also been posted to Harbour Patrol Section. Ms Tsui will introduce to us the duties of MIs in this issue.

### **Working with stakeholders with mature communication skills and team spirit**

MIs are responsible for security control, berthing control, and managing at the Terminal Pass and Information Office. They have regular duty roster. Security control mainly includes crowd management, responding to emergencies, patrolling inside the Terminal to ensure smooth passage, and coordinating maintenance works. Berthing control regulates the marine traffic and monitors the movement of ferries utilizing the Terminal. The Terminal is often a busy area, especially during festive seasons, such as the recent Lunar New Year holiday. “We need to have close contact with the stakeholders in the Terminal, including other Government Departments and the ferry companies, so as to ensure proper crowd management. In case there is an urgent repair, we have to respond swiftly and arrange the repairing work without interfering with the Terminal’s daily operation. Mature communication skills and team spirit are therefore very important,” Ms Tsui said.

### **Language proficiency helps completing the tasks**

MIs also issue terminal passes for Government officials and staff of the ferry companies and handle public enquiries. “The enquiries can be very diverse, ranging from sailing schedule, applying for terminal passes, to even asking for directions when getting lost. So sound knowledge of the Terminal and high language proficiency are helpful”, Ms Tsui noted.

### **Great satisfaction from facilitating public’s safe journey**

Being frequently in direct contact with the public and dealing with emergencies, Ms Tsui described her work to ensure the smooth operation of the Terminal as being very challenging, yet full of satisfaction, especially seeing citizens and tourists setting

off excitingly and safely for their holiday. She looks forward to achieving self-enhancement by posting to various units, such as the Marine Emergency and Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre or the Licensing and Port Formalities Section.

### **6 new launches join to enhance harbour patrol**

Six new patrol launches have recently joined the Harbour Patrol Section (HPS), including 4 glass reinforced plastic (GRP) launches, namely Marine 18, 20, 21 and 22, with length of approximately 15m, and 2 aluminum alloy catamarans, namely Marine 113 and 115, with length of approximately 10m. They are built in new layouts and equipped with new features to help MD officers enhance marine traffic control.

### **Speed boosted to combat vessel speeding and fishing in fairways**

The maximum speed of Marine 18, 20, 21 and 22 is 20 knots, which are faster than the existing launches that are of average 15 knots. Marine 113 and 115, now being the fastest vessels in HPS, even have a maximum speed of 35 knots. Higher speed allows MD's officers to arrive on scene of law enforcement and accident swiftly and to pursue other vessels more effectively.

### **Secure Automatic Identification System (AIS)**

All six new launches are installed with secure AIS, which allow them to detect other vessels equipped with AIS and obtain their information without being detected. As patrol launches often involve in law enforcement operations, such as anti-speeding and navigation safety, the new launches can keep track of and monitor the movements of other vessels secretly with secure AIS. The encrypted information can be decrypted by MD's new vessel traffic services system to obtain the latest movements of these new launches and provide necessary instructions as appropriate.

### **New features for public address and internal communication**

LED boards and intercom system are installed onboard of Marine 18, 20, 21 and 22. Clear instructions and updated information can be delivered to nearby vessels when coordinating for large-scale event at sea, such as Fireworks Display and Dragon Boat Race. A LED board of 3m in length is installed on each side of the 4 launches, so messages can be clearly seen at night as well as daytime. In addition to making public

address, intercom system is also used for facilitating internal communication. By adjusting to appropriate acoustic level, officers in the wheelhouse may communicate with those in the lower deck crew area. With the high-resolution CCTV display and record system, launch master can manage forward and aft with less blind sector and thus enhances navigational and operational safety. The launch master can as well give instant instruction to officers to take actions on the deck areas.

### **Solar panels to save fuel and protect environment**

Solar panels are also installed on the top deck of 4 GRP patrol launches to provide auxiliary electrical power supply so as to reduce fuel consumption and protect the environment. The solar energy will provide emergency electrical power supply to run DC powered equipment, such as alarms, emergency lights, navigational lights, bilge pumps, etc, to ensure the vessel can continue to operate.

### **Departmental News**

Secretary for Transport and Housing, Mr Frank Chan Fan, led officials from the Bureau to visit the Hong Kong Shipping Registry and the Central Marine Office of the MD on February 8, 2018. He also met with MD's staff representatives from various divisions to exchange views and encouraged them to keep up their good work.

Mr Peter Hinchliffe, the Secretary-General of International Chamber of Shipping, visited the MD on January 15, 2018.

Mr Jos Standerwick, the Chief Executive of Maritime London, visited the MD on November 17, 2017.

The delegation of the Maritime Safety Administration (MSA) of the People's Republic of China, led by Mr Xu Ruqing, the Director-general of MSA, visited the MD on November 16, 2017 to hold a regular meeting on maritime safety. The delegation also pictured with the representatives of the MD.

The Navigational Safety Seminar 2018 held by the MD on January 17, 2018 attracting nearly 200 representatives from the shipping industries, coxswains and operators of local vessels, as well as representatives of marine works projects to attend.

To enhance the hygiene conditions of the Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter, the MD conducted a large scale cleansing operation at the site on January 9, 2018.