

## **Education and Careers Expo 2021- To encourage young people to join the maritime industryNT**

To promote the maritime industry and encourage young people to explore job options in the field as well as to forge their professional career, the Marine Department (MD) and the Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board set up booths at the Education and Careers Expo 2021 which was held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre from 15 to 18 July.

Representatives from several grades of the MD, namely Marine Officer, Surveyor of Ships, Assistant Marine Controller and Marine Inspector II, were present at the booth to introduce to visitors their job duties in different units, the entry requirements as well as career prospects. Under the guidance of MD's staff, visitors could steer by themselves a full mission ship simulator through which they could experience seafaring and also understand the importance of marine traffic safety.

Ms. Carol Yuen, the Director of Marine, visited the Expo on the first day and MD's colleagues briefed her on the key features of the department's booth. During her visit, Ms. Yuen also chatted with students from the Hong Kong Sea School and encouraged them to join the maritime industry after graduation.

To enable the public to better understand the qualification framework of the seafaring industry, MD and the Qualification Framework Secretariat produced a brand-new promotion pamphlet for distribution in the Education and Careers Expo.

## **Marine Department Summer Interns to Chase Their Seafaring Dreams**

The Marine Department (MD) holds the Summer Internship Programme every year, providing an opportunity for Hong Kong students who are currently studying in relevant full-time programmes in post-secondary institutions to acquire early hands-on experience of working in MD, so as to allow them to gain more in-depth understanding about MD and the maritime industry, as well as to facilitate them to make their career plans. In July and August, ten students from post-secondary institutions spent their summer as interns in MD, working at different divisions and sections, including the Vessel Traffic Centre (VTC), Harbour Patrol Section (HPS), the Government New Construction Section and Quality Management Section. They were introduced to duties similar to those of Assistant Marine Officers or Assistant Surveyors of Ships. Their internship ended with a sharing session on 31 August,

which was attended by the senior management of MD including Mr. Wong Sai-fat, Deputy Director (1) (DD(1)), and Mr. Raymond Sy, the then Deputy Director (2) (DD(2)); as well as the Assistant Directors.

Mr. Wong Sai-fat mentioned in his welcoming speech that he looked forward to seeing more new blood joining MD and unleashing their potential. He said that the work on board was full of challenges, which required teamwork spirit and professional attitude. “Don’t be afraid of the hardships if you are interested in the seafaring career. Let’s create a better future of the maritime industry in Hong Kong!” said Mr. Wong. Before the sharing session ended, Mr. Raymond Sy thanked the students for their experience sharing. He hoped that students could, after the internship programme, equip themselves and grasp the opportunities from the National 14th Five-Year Plan and join the seafaring industry. He also encouraged them to join MD in the future.

Intern Deron was assigned to the VTC and the HPS. He occasionally joined the Marine Inspectors in patrolling the waters between Hong Kong Island and Kowloon, in order to combat illegal activities. Deron recalled an experience of his team finding a few suspicious vessels anchoring illegally during a patrol, from which he learnt more about how the Marine Inspectors conducted their patrols and prosecution duties. Apart from that, he also assisted in updating the information and layout design of some promotion leaflets, so as to keep the public updated with the latest maritime regulations.

Mandy, like Deron, also worked in the VTC and the HPS to take up duties similar to those of Assistant Marine Officers. At the HPS, she learnt how to use the Ringelmann Chart for determining whether there was any excessive dark smoke emission from vessels, and understood the law enforcement duties of the HPS and relevant procedures. When she worked at the VTC, she learnt how MD cooperated with other Government departments in maintaining and monitoring navigational safety at sea.

Intern Jonathan was happy to join the ship inspection work with Port State Control colleagues to obtain hands-on experience on the survey of vessel. Through experiencing the work environment of seafarers on board, he deepened his knowledge on operations of ocean-going vessels, ship safety, repair and maintenance of the equipment. He also learnt about MD’s Port State Control work with foreign vessels, as well as its responsibilities and efforts in maintaining harbour and shipping safety.

He looked forward to taking up seafaring jobs after graduation.

Tim was assigned to the Government New Construction Section, where he assisted in the design, procurement and testing procedures for vessels. During his summer internship, he not only could enhance his communication skills by contacting user Government departments, but also develop his professional knowledge and judgement. Besides, he assisted in researching on various ship designs and components such as construction materials, dimension, engine emission, etc. , and consolidating tender details for colleagues' reference.

Apart from daily work in their assigned sections, some interns had opportunities to tour around the Kwai Tsing Container Terminal under the guidance of surveyors of the Port State Control Section, to visit an ocean-going vessel, and to join MD's Port State Control inspection work. During the process, they made good use of the precious opportunity to visit the bridge, engine room, and living rooms of the seafarers, learning how to inspect the ship certificates, safety equipment and systems, and also understanding MD's Port State Control programme. They also visited the MD Training Centre, dockyards, the Tsing Ma Bridge and other marine facilities.

During the programme, the interns saw for themselves MD's efforts in maintaining marine safety. They also expressed their thanks to the management for offering them such valuable learning opportunities.

### **Strengthening Coordination of Maritime Services in Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau**

On 29 September, Guangdong Maritime Safety Administration, Hong Kong Marine Department, and Marine and Water Bureau of Macao together with Shenzhen Maritime Safety Administration and the Southern Navigation Service Center held a conference on coordination of maritime services in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA). Mr. Zhuang Zeping, Director of Guangdong Maritime Safety Administration; Ms. Carol Yuen, Director of Marine of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region; and Ms. Susana Wong, Director of the Marine and Water Bureau of Macao led their own delegations to attend the online conference to exchange views on issues including improvement of the marine incidents notification mechanism and the e-navigation system to enhance maritime and navigational safety in the GBA.

To further improve the marine incidents notification mechanism in the GBA, all parties in the conference agreed to establish a monthly incident notification mechanism, under which monthly notifications will be issued to relevant parties about incidents involving registered ships. In case of injuries and/or deaths or pollution affecting the waters of the other parties, the relevant parties should be notified as soon as possible.

During the conference, the three parties agreed to cooperate on notification and verification of relevant ship information to jointly combat illegal activities of cross-boundary vessels. At the same time, the parties also agreed to establish a standardised inspection and notification mechanism with a view to reducing repeated inspections of vessels in the GBA.

Apart from the above notification mechanisms, issues related to maritime services in the GBA including formulating the GBA's contingency plan for typhoons, strengthening coordination of transmission of distress signals at sea, enhancing emergency collaboration in the event of oil spillage from vessels near the Pearl River Estuary, and the preparatory work for the GBA Maritime Festival and Maritime Summer Camp for Youngsters were also discussed in the conference.

Ms. Carol Yuen remarked that the Outline Development Plan of the Greater Bay Area brought about opportunities and challenges for maritime services. She looked forward to the enhanced collaboration and exchanges among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao maritime authorities in the future.

### **Departmental News**

Miss Amy Chan assumed the post of Deputy Director of Marine (2) on 4 October, succeeding Mr. Raymond Sy, who has assumed the post of Deputy Director of Broadcasting. Miss Chan heads the Government Fleet Division, Planning and Services Division, Administrative Branch and Finance Branch of the Department.

### **Leaflet of the Professional Qualifications of The Maritime Industry**

To enhance public understanding of the professional qualifications of the maritime industry, the MD and the Qualifications Framework (QF) Secretariat produced a brand-new promotion leaflet on the QF-recognised professional qualifications from the MD, which covers the sea-going and local vessel careers. The

leaflet also introduces the Sea-going Training Incentive Scheme, the Local Vessel Trade Training Incentive Scheme and the Local Vessel Competency Enhancement Scheme under the Maritime and Aviation Training Fund of the Transport and Housing Bureau, which encourage young people who are interested in joining the maritime industry to obtain the seafaring and local coxswain/ engine operator qualifications.

Link to leaflet (Chinese only):

[https://www.mardep.gov.hk/theme/maritime\\_industry/tc/pdf/leaflet.pdf](https://www.mardep.gov.hk/theme/maritime_industry/tc/pdf/leaflet.pdf)

### **Seminars**

To uphold continuously the quality of Hong Kong registered ships amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the MD organised two online safety seminars in August, which were conducted in Putonghua and English respectively. More than 200 participants from all over the world representing shipowners, ship management companies and recognised organizations attended the seminar. The main topics included reviewing the Port State Control (PSC) performance of Hong Kong registered ships, sharing cases on ship detention, discussing the PSC Concentrated Inspection Campaign 2021 and introducing the latest policies and services provided, including the Regional Desks services. In order to promote exchange of ideas, there were question-and-answer sessions at the seminars. The seminar presentation materials have been uploaded to the MD website afterwards.

Links: [https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/faq/pdf/Safety\\_Seminar\\_2021.pdf](https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/faq/pdf/Safety_Seminar_2021.pdf)  
[https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/faq/pdf/Safety\\_Seminar\\_2021\\_QA.pdf](https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/faq/pdf/Safety_Seminar_2021_QA.pdf)

With the aim of promoting the career opportunities and development of the maritime industry in Hong Kong, two Assistant Marine Officers, Mr. Mark Lau and Mr. Angus Wong, shared their own experiences with a group of undergraduates pursuing Bachelor of Business Administration (Honours) in International Shipping and Transport Logistics at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University on 28 September. Mr. Law Lap Keung, Chief Assistant Secretary (Transport) of the Transport and Housing Bureau, together with Mark and Angus, answered students' enquiries in a Q&A session to help them better understand the maritime industry.

In order to test the marine pollution responses in the event of oil spillage and the spread of hazardous and noxious substances in Hong Kong waters, the annual marine pollution response joint exercises, code-named “Oilex 2021” and “HNS 2021”, were conducted by the MD and various government departments on 27 October

morning at the waters of Lamma Island.

On 8 July, the MD invited a group of non-Chinese speaking secondary school students to observe the MD's oil spill response drill and introduced to them the marine refuse cleansing services. The visit aimed to help the students understand the daily operation of the Pollution Control Unit of the MD and various career opportunities in the local vessel trade, as a good reference for their further studies or career pursuits.

On 23 October, the MD arranged a visit to the Yau Ma Tei Marine Refuse Collection Point for the Hong Kong Scout Association Training Branch. The activity aimed to help the scout members develop a profound understanding of the maritime services and industry.

In addition to the daily marine refuse collection and scavenging services, the MD conducted large scale cleansing operations at Chai Wan Cargo Handling Basin and Shau Kei Wan Typhoon Shelter in September 2021, to step up efforts to keep the sea clean. Promotion leaflets were also distributed by the MD officers to remind the public to keep the harbour clean.

### **Visits**

On 14 September, the MD arranged a visit to the Government Dockyard for the Institute of Seatransport, in order to promote the exchange of professional knowledge within the Hong Kong shipping industry. Members of the Institute come from different streams of the trade, including ship owners, marine insurers, ship brokers, maritime lawyers, harbour pilots and seagoing officers.

In response to an application 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 Engineering, Science and Technology, the MD arranged a technical visit to the Government Dockyard (GD) for a total of 25 members of the two institutes on 15 October. The group toured around the GD's workshops, including the ship repair workshop and facilities, mechanical workshop, propeller workshop, fuel oil service pump workshop and fiberglass maintenance workshop.