

**Together with MD, keep HK waters clean**

Hong Kong's spectacular Victoria Harbour and beautiful coastline are internationally renowned and attract not only tourists from all over the world, but also members of the public to spend their leisure time there. While admiring the stunning harbour view, have you ever thought about how the cleanliness of Hong Kong waters is maintained? Over the past few months the Editor followed the work of the Marine Department's (MD) Pollution Control Unit (PCU) and observed various sea cleansing operations, thus realising deeply the difficulties of marine refuse cleansing as well as the importance of cultivating a culture of cleanliness.

**Duties of PCU**

PCU is mainly responsible for sea surface cleanliness in Hong Kong waters. Throughout the year, daily patrol is performed to monitor sea surface cleanliness and to tackle sea surface hygiene black spots. In addition to deploying vessels to scavenge floating refuse in Hong Kong waters every day, MD's contractor also provides free of charge domestic refuse collection services for local vessels moored inside typhoon shelters and ships anchored in Victoria Harbour, Junk Bay and the Western Anchorages.

Apart from the aforementioned regular cleansing services, the foreshore cleansing teams of MD's contractor also help green groups handle the refuse collected at beaches after their cleanup activities. To keep our harbour clean, the foreshore cleansing teams also clean up refuse accumulated at foreshore areas which are inaccessible by land.

PCU's marine refuse cleansing contractor deploys three Sea Cleaners and over forty outsourced vessels every day to scavenge, collect, and transport marine refuse. A total of about 2,400 tonnes of floating and domestic refuse from vessels are collected annually. To scavenge marine refuse in narrow waterways, the fleet consists of six new quick response workboats and two scavenging catamarans equipped with mechanical devices. The department is also planning to replace the three Sea Cleaners with a new model of scavenging boats so as to increase the ability and efficiency of scavenging services.

## **Joint cleanup operations**

The Task Force on Marine Refuse, led by the Environment and Ecology Bureau, is mainly responsible for coordinating efforts to tackle marine refuse, monitoring the cleanliness within Hong Kong waters and coastal areas, and promoting education and publicity and public engagement events. Departments in the Task Force include the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, the Civil Engineering and Development Department, the Drainage Services Department, the Environmental Protection Department, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and MD.

To enhance the efficiency of marine refuse cleansing, MD also conducts joint coastal cleanup operations with various departments, including large-scale typhoon shelter cleansing operations, with resources provided by the District-Led Actions Scheme, in collaboration with various government departments; as well as inter-departmental cleanup operations in remote areas such as the near-shore waters of Sha Tau Kok.

The District Office concerned coordinates with relevant departments to conduct joint sea cleaning operations and explain the purpose of the cleanup operations to members of the local community, so that when necessary shipowners can be contacted to move away their vessels to enable contractors to remove accumulated marine refuse hidden in gaps between vessels.

## **Scavenging marine refuse by all means**

Senior Marine Officer (Port Logistics), Mr. Kenneth Kwok, shared with us the difficulties they encountered during sea cleansing operations. Members of the public may not be aware that litter on shore may be washed into the sea after high tides and heavy storms. Some litter may even sink into the seabed or be washed into crevices of breakwaters. In view of that, MD's contractor strives hard to remove litter hidden in crevices of breakwaters during low tides by arranging vessels equipped with water cannons to flush out the refuse, which will then be collected by other vessels. After that, contract staff will be arranged to clean up the remaining tiny debris.

The Editor had the opportunity to follow PCU to observe a large-scale cleanup operation at the Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter. As seen at the scene, cleaning workers pulled out bundles and bundles of fishing nets from gaps in breakwaters. The fishing

nets were long and heavy as they were entangled with a large amount of other garbage such as cans, plastics bags and ropes. Workers had to use knives from time to time or even tie one end of abandoned fishing nets to a vessel to lug the nets out with the power of the vessel. As there is much sharp garbage hidden in the nets, the workers had to be very careful during the operation.

Kenneth added, “As there are always numerous vessels moored at typhoon shelters, small pieces of refuse such as soft drink cans and plastic bottles may drift into gaps between vessels. Thus water cannons have to be used to flush the refuse out for collection at the other end. Due to the busy traffic in typhoon shelters, our contractor has to pay extra attention to operational safety and vessels movement to avoid ship collision.”

Some other difficulties arise when MD conducts cleanup operations in remote areas. Taking Sha Tau Kok as an example, it is hard to clean up refuse accumulated in its near-shore waters as cleansing exercises require not only inter-departmental joint efforts, but also appropriate timing of low tides and weather. Only a few daytime slots in a month are suitable for operations. Following PCU to Sha Tau Kok to carry out a cleanup operation, the editor found that a lot of refuse in different sizes accumulated on the surface of seabed, including timber boards and wheels. As some of the refuse was deeply trapped into the seabed, cleaning workers had to try different methods and tools to remove such refuse.

### **Public education**

As observed by the Editor in various cleansing operations, most of the floating refuse collected involves wrapping paper, beverage cartons, plastic bottles, etc. If members of the public can work together to reduce waste at source, it will definitely help reduce the amount of waste on the sea, shore and beaches. In fact, over 80 percent of marine refuse in Hong Kong is generated by land-based activities. Part of the refuse may sink into the seabed, becoming seabed refuse. Thus, reducing waste at source is always the best way to tackle marine refuse problem.

As stressed in the Government District Improvement Scheme’s TV announcement in the public interest "Keep the Environment Clean for a Better Hong Kong", “You dump rubbish and I clean it up. It's a never-ending cycle. It's time to change. Stop dumping rubbish!”

We strongly believe that the cleanliness of our harbour can be better maintained through cooperation of the community. MD officers often distribute leaflets to shipowners and the public, and remind them to keep the harbour clean. The public may refer to the leaflet on the department's website: [https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/pub\\_services/ocean/pdf/pcu\\_harbourclean.pdf](https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/pub_services/ocean/pdf/pcu_harbourclean.pdf)

Facts you need to know: Marine littering offenders are liable to a maximum fine of \$10,000 and to imprisonment for 6 months. MD encourages members of the public to call the 24-hour hotline (Tel: (852) 1823) to make a report of floating refuse and marine littering.

### **Oil pollution**

To keep the harbour clean, apart from dealing with marine refuse, PCU also stands ready round-the-clock to inspect vessels bunkering or oil transfer in Hong Kong waters and to remind ship owners of the precautions to be taken. PCU also checks oil terminals to ensure that their anti-oil pollution equipment is in a good condition.

In order to test marine pollution responses in the event of oil spillage and the spread of hazardous and noxious substances in Hong Kong waters, MD together with other Government departments conduct joint exercises every year.

### **Hong Kong Shipping Registry: Together, we ride the currents**

The Hong Kong Shipping Registry (HKSR) has produced a new promotional video themed "Together, We Ride the Currents". On this mission, HKSR and its regional desks have all along been striving to promote the quality of Hong Kong registered ships and to provide ship owners and shipping companies with excellent services. Over the past few months, HKSR and its regional desks also organised and participated in various activities to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR 25A) with stakeholders.

To further promote HKSR to ship owners and shipping companies, the Marine Department (MD) was very privileged to have many celebrities in the industry to participate in the filming of the promotional video featuring the unique advantages of Hong Kong as an international financial and maritime centre, the excellent services of HKSR and regional desks, the high quality of Hong Kong registered ships, etc. Apart

from being broadcast at maritime events and the Central Government Offices (Tamar), the video has also been uploaded onto various online platforms such as RTHK 32, BrandHK, YouTube, Mainland media and MD's website:

<https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/hksr/index.html>.

MD would like to express its gratitude to Mr. Bjorn Hojgaard, Mr. Zhu Jian-hui , Mr. Hing Chao, Mr. Edward Liu, Mr. Martin Fruergaard and Mr. Hiroyuki Yamada for their staunch support in the production of our promotional video.

• **Seminar on “Development of Hong Kong Shipping Registry and Logistic Opportunities Associated with GBA”**

On 18 August 2022, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Singapore (Singapore ETO), together with InvestHK, MD and the Hong Kong Maritime Arbitration Group, co-organised the business seminar entitled "Development of Hong Kong Shipping Registry and Logistics Opportunities Associated with Greater Bay Area" to celebrate the HKSAR 25A and to share with the maritime and logistics trade in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) about Hong Kong's boundless opportunities offered by China under the National 14th Five-Year Plan as an international maritime centre. The seminar was held in a hybrid format and attracted over 100 in-person and online participants from various industries and institutions, including ship owners, ship managers, maritime services providers (e.g. maritime arbitrators and ship brokers), as well as shipping and logistics companies in Singapore and the ASEAN region.

The Secretary for Transport and Logistics, Mr. Lam Sai-hung, in his speech delivered virtually, said that the Hong Kong Government was fully committed to foster the development of high value-added maritime services, including ship registration, ship finance, ship management, marine insurance, and maritime legal and arbitration services. He added that HKSR also set up Regional Desks in seven cities around the world, including the Singapore Regional Desk which was set up in 2020, in order to further enhance services for owners of Hong Kong-registered ships residing abroad.

The Regional Head of Singapore Regional Desk, Mr. Philip Ho, briefed the audiences on the support rendered by HKSR for owners of Hong Kong registered ships residing in Singapore, Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia and India; and the advantages of using Hong Kong as the seat for maritime arbitration.

• **“25 Years - Review and Projection - Hong Kong the International Maritime Centre” Webinar**

To celebrate the HKSAR 25A, the Promotion and External Relations Committee of Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board and Invest Hong Kong held a webinar "25 Years - Review and Projection - Hong Kong the International Maritime Centre" on 26 August. Representatives of influential maritime associations were invited to share their devoted effort and achievements made in the past 25 years in making Hong Kong a successful international maritime centre, and how they utilise the support of the national strategies and the government to develop their maritime business in Hong Kong and to enhance Hong Kong's status as an international maritime centre.

MD's Assistant Director/ Shipping, Mr. Choi Chi-chuen, also attended the webinar to explain the role of HKSR in strengthening Hong Kong's status as an international maritime centre. At the webinar, HKSR's newly produced promotional video was played to share that its regional desks in Shanghai, London, Singapore, Sydney, San Francisco, Toronto, and Tokyo had already been set up to provide more direct and prompt support to the ship owners and management companies of Hong Kong registered ships.

• **Marine Department honours outstanding shipping companies**

On 8 November, MD held the “Together We Set Sail” Award Presentation Ceremony to present awards to shipping companies in recognition of their outstanding performance in the pursuit of high quality Hong Kong registered ships over the past year. To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, MD also presented awards to ship owners in appreciation of their long-standing quality partnership with the Hong Kong Shipping Registry (HKSR), and “Happy 25” birthday cards to Hong Kong registered seafarers born in July 1997.

Representatives of the Hong Kong Shipowners Association also attended the ceremony to extend their congratulations to the awardees.

The list of awardees is as follows (in alphabetical order):

**Award for the company with the highest gross tonnage (GT) on the HKSR in 2021**

- China COSCO SHIPPING Corporation Limited

**Award for the company which placed the most GT on the HKSR in 2021**

- China COSCO SHIPPING Corporation Limited

**Award for outstanding performance in port State control (PSC) for the year of 2021**

- Anglo-Eastern Ship Management Limited
- COSCO Shipping Bulk Co., Ltd.
- Fleet Management Limited
- Hong Kong Ming Wah Shipping Company Ltd.
- Maersk A/S
- Orient Overseas Container Line Ltd.
- Pacific Basin Shipping (HK) Limited
- Seaspan Ship Management Ltd.
- Shanghai Ocean Shipping Co., Ltd.
- SITC Shipping Management (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.
- Wah Kwong Ship Management (HK) Ltd.
- Yangtze Navigation (Hong Kong) Co., Ltd.

**25th Anniversary Award for Long-standing Quality Partnership with HKSR**

- Chellaram Shipping (Hong Kong) Limited
- China COSCO Shipping Corporation Limited
- China Merchants Energy Shipping Co., Ltd.
- Pacific Basin Shipping Limited
- Saga Shipholding (Norway) AS
- Swire Shipping Pte. Ltd.
- Valles Steamship Co., Ltd.
- Wah Kwong Maritime Transport Holdings Limited

**“Happy 25” birthday card to Hong Kong registered seafarers born in July 1997**

- Mr. Au-Yeung Cheuk-hin, Stephen
- Mr. Chan Ki-on
- Mr. Fan Shyh-jye, Toddy
- Mr. Hui Chung-sing
- Mr. Lau Chun-tak
- Ms. Ma Ho-Huen
- Mr. Ngan Hang-shing
- Mr. Nip Chun-hin

• **2022 Safety Seminars**

To maintain the quality of Hong Kong registered ships, MD organised two online safety seminars in August, which were conducted in Putonghua and English respectively. The seminar topics included reviewing the Port State Control (PSC) performance of Hong Kong registered ships, studying cases on ship detention, discussing the PSC Concentrated Inspection Campaign 2022 and introducing MD's latest policies and services provided, including the launching of One-stop e-Services (OSS) for Hong Kong registered ships. About 300 participants from around the world representing ship owners, ship management companies and recognised organisations attended the seminars.

In order to encourage exchange of views, there were question-and-answer sessions at the seminars. The seminars presentation materials have been uploaded to MD website afterwards.

Links (English only):

[https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/faq/pdf/safety\\_seminar\\_2022.pdf](https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/faq/pdf/safety_seminar_2022.pdf)

[https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/faq/pdf/safety\\_seminar\\_2022\\_qa.pdf](https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/faq/pdf/safety_seminar_2022_qa.pdf)

• **Indoor farming pilot project on a Hong Kong registered ship**

HKSR has all along been encouraging its fleet to promote sustainable development from different aspects and to improve seafarers' working and living conditions on board. In support of the International Maritime Organization's appeal to develop sustainable shipping, Hong Kong registered ship NEW VISION successfully started an indoor farming pilot project on board. By simulating the natural environment for plant growth, the planting process can be automated and standardised to maintain the nutrition of the green products, which allows seafarers working on ocean-going vessels to enjoy fresh vegetables every day during long voyage. With the success of the pilot project, indoor farming will be extended to her sister ships.

**MD combats illegal carriage of passengers on vessels**

Many people like travelling to outlying islands or countryside by boat during weekends. However, they may not be aware that local pleasure vessels must seek endorsement from the Marine Department (MD) before they are allowed to be let for hire or carry passengers for reward. In fact, hiring an endorsed pleasure vessel can



ensure that it holds valid certificates of survey and insurance, and provides fire-fighting and life-saving equipment on board. To assist the public in identifying illegal carriage of passengers on vessels, MD uploaded the list of vessels with the endorsement given by the Director of Marine early this year, and generated a QR code to enable members of the public to verify if a pleasure vessels is an endorsed one on the list.

To strengthen public safety awareness in hiring pleasure vessels and making use of kaito ferry services, MD, together with the Transport Department (TD) and the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF), produced a set of TV and radio announcements in the public interest (API) this August to remind the public to protect themselves from risks by confirming that a local pleasure vessel is allowed by MD to be let for hire or carry passengers for reward before hiring it. Likewise, members of the public should verify if the kaito ferry service has already been approved by the TD. The API has been broadcast on TV and radio, displayed in various government venues and shared on social media platforms.

To step up enforcement operations against illegal passenger-carrying activities, apart from daily patrol and law enforcement operations within Hong Kong waters, the MD also works closely with the HKPF, especially during weekends and holidays, to conduct special joint operations in different parts of Hong Kong waters to combat illegal activities. In 2022, MD has already conducted nearly 180 enforcement operations against vessels carrying passengers illegally, including decoy operations. If a vessel is found being let for hire or carrying passengers for reward without a relevant licence or the Director of Marine's endorsement, the owner, agent and/or operator will be prosecuted. If a vessel is suspected to operate kaito ferry services without a licence, the MD will refer the case to the TD and the HKPF as soon as possible for their follow-up actions.

In addition, the MD has also written to owners of pleasure vessels let for hire to remind them that their vessels must maintain a certain number of lifejackets and lifebuoys according to the law. Materials like lifejacket stickers, lifejacket donning instructions and QR code for members of the public to verify if a pleasure vessel is an endorsed one on the list have also been provided to them for displaying on board.

**MD attracts and nurtures talents****• MD Summer Interns in the Chase for Seafaring Dreams**

The Marine Department (MD) holds the Summer Internship Programme every summer, providing an opportunity for post-secondary students who aspire to the maritime industry to acquire early hands-on experience of working in MD as Assistant Marine Officers, Assistant Surveyors of Ships, etc. The programme aims to deepen their understanding about MD and the maritime industry as well as to facilitate their career planning. In July and August this year, eight students from tertiary institutions spent their summer as interns in MD, working at various divisions, including the Vessel Traffic Centre (VTC), the Harbour Patrol Section (HPS), the Government New Construction Section (GNC), the Quality Management Section and the Training Section. Their internship ended with a sharing session on 31 August, in which the interns shared what they learned and achieved during the programme. The senior management of MD including Mr. Wong Sai-fat, Deputy Director (1) (DD(1)), and Miss Amy Chan, Deputy Director (2)(DD(2)); as well as several Assistant Directors attended the sharing session and met with the interns.

In his welcoming speech, Mr. Wong Sai-fat said that the programme aimed to provide guidance to facilitate the interns in life planning. Pointing out that the maritime industry offered a vast variety of jobs like shipping, sea-going, arbitration, maritime law, etc., he encouraged students interested in the maritime career to work hard and create a better future for the maritime industry in Hong Kong. Before the conclusion of the sharing session, Miss Amy Chan thanked the interns for their impressive experience sharing. She hoped that the programme had enabled the interns to better understand the role of MD in promoting the development of Hong Kong's maritime services and she looked forward to seeing more new blood joining MD in the future.

Matthew Tsui said, 'When I was working at HPS, I had the opportunity to accompany and observe Marine Inspectors to patrol typhoon shelters to combat illegal mooring activities, from which I learnt more about their patrol and prosecution duties. I was also assigned to work at VTS, where I helped input MD's marine incident reports and related information into the system. That enabled me to learn about the roles and duties of MD in handling marine incidents.' He said that the internship benefited him a lot and made him more determined to develop his career in the maritime industry.

Aaron Lau mainly assisted in guiding visitors to operate the ship simulator during his internship in the Training Centre. He mentioned, 'I learnt 3D graphic application skills and hydrographic knowledge through the duties in the Training Centre. Apart from that, I really appreciate the chance to observe the joint operation of MD, the Fire Services Department and the Marine Police in the fire drill at New Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter which enabled me to understand the importance of marine services and the communication among departments.'

Darren Mak said, 'During my internship at VTC, I helped update vessel watch list, record documents in file rooms, and review statistics on the number of government mooring buoys over the past two decades. Through these duties, I could familiarise myself with the layout of harbour facilities, the knowledge of navigation safety, and the changes in Hong Kong waters in the past decades, which enriched my understanding of the maritime industry's development.' Darren expressed his gratitude to MD colleagues for the generous advices and sharing about their interesting and challenging work experience. He looked forward to the opportunity for joining MD in the future.

Matthew Lee recalled, 'The most impressive part of my internship was the experience working at HPS. I was able to follow MD colleagues and observe how they conducted inspection and enforcement actions and handled illegally berthed vessels. My understanding on the work of MD in port management in Hong Kong waters was thus deepened.'

Herman Ma and Brian Kwong were both assigned to work at GNC, where they gained knowledge of vessel design, procurement and testing procedures. They also assisted in consolidating tender details for colleagues' reference. 'To help GNC streamline the work process at the stage of preliminary designs, under the guidance of GNC colleagues, we utilised a simplified power prediction program to develop an excel spreadsheet. During the process of developing the excel spreadsheet, we were able to consolidate our knowledge and interest in vessel propulsion by applying what we had learnt. We found the task very encouraging.'

Irvin Tee worked in the Quality Management Section and was responsible for updating the Code of Practice for the Safety Standard of local vessels and assisting Surveyors of Ships to update vessel information of the Oil Pollution Certificates in the system. 'Apart from office work, I also followed Surveyors of Ships to conduct inspections of vessels. That not only enhanced my knowledge in ship safety and

equipment maintenance, but also deepened my understanding on MD's responsibility and the efforts MD made in maintaining harbour and ship safety.'

Apart from interns for the Marine Officer and Surveyor of Ships grades, MD also recruited an intern to support the administration duties. During his internship at the Administration Branch, Joseph Kwan prepared the Port Welfare Committee Annual Report and compiled statistics on services requests received by the department. 'Through updating the annual report, I know that MD not only safeguards the safety of ships, but also strives to ensure the welfare of seafarers during the epidemic.'

This summer, our interns toured around the marine facilities near Kwai Tsing Container Terminal, Training Centre and Tsing Ma Bridge under the guidance of Senior Marine Officer of the Port Logistics. Through 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.

#### • **Industry attachment programme for AMOs and ASoSs**

As mentioned in the previous issue of the Hong Kong Maritime News (HKMN), the Marine Department (MD) started the recruitment of Assistant Marine Officers (AMOs) and Assistant Surveyors of Ships (ASoSs) in 2018 to address the manpower shortage problem in the Marine Officer and Surveyor of Ships grades. To enable them to accumulate work experience and attain relevant professional knowledge, MD has arranged AMOs and ASoSs to attach to various renowned shipping entities for a 6-month industry attachment starting from January 2022. Through the programme, they can lay a solid foundation for their future professional development in MD.

In this issue, we have four AMOs and ASoSs, who finished their industry attachments in August, to share with us their precious experience.

Mr. Vincent Suen (left), AMO, attached to Wah Kwong Maritime Transport Holdings Limited. "During the 6-month attachment, I was assigned to work in the company's Health, Safety, Environment and Quality Department, Operation Department and other departments. That allowed me to fully understand the International Safety Management (ISM) code and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standard, as well as crew manning policy and seafarer recruitment strategy. I also had the opportunity to explore the daily operation of the Operation Department, including execution of various charter parties and evaluation

of ship performance. I am also grateful that my supervisors always shared with me their valuable and insightful ideas, which emphasise close cooperation between the government and the trade. For instance, liquefied natural gas (LNG) is widely used across the world's fleet, hence appropriate regulatory regime could ensure the soundness and sustainability of the shipping activities within Hong Kong waters. The knowledge I gain really kept me abreast of the current situation and future development trends of the industry."

Mr. Simon Ng, AMO, attached to Island Navigation Corporation International Limited "Although I sometimes worked from home during the attachment due to the epidemic, it was fortunate that my supervisor and colleagues provided guidance proactively that enabled me, who only had navigating bulk carrier seagoing experience, to grasp the knowledge related to tanker operations in a short period of time and to acquaint myself with the dynamic of the current tanker market and related sectors. Moreover, I learnt about the roles and responsibilities of ship owners and third-party management companies in daily operations, especially in dealing with the requirements of charter party and the safety compliance under Port State Control and Ship Inspection Report programme. The industry attachment expanded my professional knowledge, which really benefited me a lot!"

Mr. Francis Wong (centre) and Mr. Ian Wong (left), ASOs, attached to China Classification Society (CSS). Francis and Ian started their attachments in Shanghai by listening to class surveyors' sharing on the development of the Class Rule and their quality system as well as their experience and insights of the workflow process of plan approval and the innovation of green technologies in the shipping sector. After that, they were attached to the CSS Jiangsu Branch to familiarise themselves with the certification process and to understand the CSS's Lists of Certifications in the Rules.

Francis shared, "Through the attachment programme, I not only understood more about the classification society's management, organization system and approval workflow of shipbuilding projects, but also the process of statutory certifications and services conducted by recognised organisations. My understanding of ship design drawing and plan approval work has also been enriched. The most valuable experience was the visit to a shipyard where I could obtain the whole picture of shipbuilding process and quality control system of modern shipbuilders, thus benefiting my inspection work and career development in MD."

Ian said, "Although we experienced lockdown measures in Shanghai due to the

epidemic at the beginning, our attachment programme continued smoothly with the assistance from the Shanghai ETO, Shanghai Regional Desk and CSS. Through working in various departments in CSS, I acquired much about areas covered in the CSS's lists of certification requirements, including ships' equipment, machineries, engines, designs, types and operation. That enabled me to gain comprehensive understanding on how a ship is designed and manufactured as well as the stringent shipbuilding plan approval procedures and certification process, which was a real eye-opening experience!"

The two AMOs and two ASoSs also took this opportunity to extend their heartfelt thanks to the shipping entities for their support and assistance. In the coming issue of HKMN, other ASoSs participating in the industry attachment programme will be invited to share their industry attachment experience with us.

- **AMOs' sharing in PolyU**

To promote the diverse profession openings through seafaring, Assistant Marine Officers, Mr. Kyle Cheuk and Mr. Simon Ng, shared their first-hand experience in career development with a group of undergraduate students pursuing Bachelor of Business Administration (Honours) in International Shipping and Transport Logistics at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University on 20 September.

Joined by Miss Carmen Chan, Chief Assistant Secretary (Transport) of the Transport and Logistics Bureau, Kyle and Simon further interacted with the students in a subsequent Q&A session, aiming to enhance the latter's understanding of the maritime industry of Hong Kong and the requirements of becoming a seafarer. Miss Carmen Chan, being the first female in Hong Kong qualified as a Captain of ocean-going vessel, also shared the hardships and joys in pursuing her maritime career, and encouraged students who are interested, irrespective of gender, to join and become maritime professionals.

- **Sing Tao JobMarket's job fair**

In order to attract more young people to join the maritime industry, the Marine Department (MD) participated in Sing Tao JobMarket's job fair held on 19 October. Assistant Marine Officer, Mr. Mark Lau and Assistant Surveyor of Ships, Mr. David Ho represented MD as the guest speakers of the fair to introduce to visitors the department's functions as well as the job duties of various professional grades at a

sharing session and MD's booth. Through their sharing and explanations, young people visiting the job fair could learn more about the maritime industry and were also encouraged to explore job options in the maritime industry and join MD in the future.

### **Hong Kong Maritime Week 2022**

The Hong Kong Maritime Week 2022, organised by the Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board (HKMPB), was successfully held from 20 to 26 November 2022. Over 40 events, including forums, seminars, ceremonies, visits and exhibitions, were held smoothly during the week, covering areas such as ship financing, marine insurance, maritime law and arbitration, maritime technology and digitalisation, port and logistics, ship management, maritime education and career, green shipping and decarbonisation as well as general shipping and maritime issues. The fabulous week not only gathered the members of the maritime industries, but also created a platform for them to demonstrate their strengths and raise the public awareness of the economic contributions of Hong Kong's maritime and port industries.

The Marine department (MD) also hosted a number of activities for the Maritime Week, including visits to the Government Dockyard (GD), MD Hydrographic Office (HO), Aids to Navigation and Mooring Unit (ANMU), and Green Island Lighthouse. The visits aimed to introduce to visitors the work of MD, and to give young people a better understanding of the maritime related industries so as to attract them to join the maritime industry.

With the aim of encouraging more people to join the MD, Miss Carmen Chan Ka Man, Chief Assistant Secretary (Transport) for the Transport and Logistics Bureau, attended a webinar "Exploring Shore-based Careers of the Maritime Services Industry" during the Maritime Week to share her own working experience in the MD and brief the online participants on the job duties, entry requirements as well as career prospects of the grades of Marine Officer and Surveyor of Ships.

Please visit [www.hkmw.hk](http://www.hkmw.hk) for activity reviews!

### **The Director of Marine's commendations to those saved lives at sea**

The Marine Department (MD) held a presentation ceremony at the Hong Kong City Hall on 30 November 2022 to commend those who risked their lives to rescue

others in Hong Kong waters. This year, there are 45 awardees and 38 of them attended the ceremony. In the ceremony, Ms. Carol Yuen, the Director of Marine presented commendations to the awardees. The awardees included police officers, staff of MD and members of the public.

Ms. Carol Yuen delivered a speech at the presentation ceremony and stressed that without the helping hands given by the awardees in critical situations, some precious lives would have been lost. She said, “On behalf of the Department, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks and pay tribute to all awardees for their great courage in the face of danger.”

### **Departmental News**

#### **STL visits MD**

The Secretary for Transport and Logistics, Mr. Lam Sai-hung, the Under Secretary for Transport & Logistics, Mr. Liu Chun-san, and the Deputy Secretary for Transport & Logistics (5), Miss Pamela Lam visited the Marine Department (MD) on 29 August to meet with its management and staff of various grades to receive an update on the department’s work and challenges. They also toured the Vessel Traffic Centre (VTC), the Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre (MRCC), the Government Dockyard (GD) and the MD Training Centre and so on. During the tour, they were briefed on MD’s delivery of marine rescue services, survey and procurement of vessels, training of marine personnel etc.

#### **Public Service Commission visits Marine Department**

The Chairman of the Public Service Commission, Mrs. Rita Lau, led members of the Commission to visit the Marine Department (MD) on 4 November this year to see for themselves MD’s work and to take the opportunity to meet colleagues of the department. They started their visit by meeting with the Director of Marine, Ms. Carol Yuen, and directorate officers of MD to discuss matters related to MD’s development and staff appointment.

They then proceeded to the Vessel Traffic Centre and the Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre located at the Hong Kong-Macau Ferry Terminal to acquaint themselves with the work of vessel traffic services and maritime search and rescue. Afterwards, they went to the Government Dockyard by MD vessel “Tin Hau” and toured around the MD Training Centre and some workshops to learn more about the



work of frontline staff.

### **Consul-General of Israel pays courtesy call on MD**

The Consul-General of Israel in Hong Kong and Macau, Mr. Amir Lati and the Commercial Consul of Israel in Hong Kong and Macau, Ms. Einav Nixon, paid a courtesy call to the Marine Department on 30 November by meeting the Director of Marine, Ms. Carol Yuen and the Assistant Director of Marine/Shipping, Mr. Choi Chi-Chuen.

### **Marine Department Volunteer Team**

The Marine Department (MD) is committed to providing excellent marine services. Our colleagues' zeal to serve and contribute to the community is not only shown in their work, but can also be displayed through voluntary services.

In August and December this year, the MD volunteer team participated in volunteer activities organised by the Ocean Park Conservation Foundation and the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) respectively.

### **MD's enforcement operations on compulsory testing notice**

As part of the Government's anti-epidemic team, the Marine Department (MD) spares no effort to deploy manpower to the front line to fight the epidemic. In September and November 2022, led by Deputy Director Mr. Wong Sai-fat, and Assistant Directors Mr. Shi Qiang and Mr. Law Lap-keung, MD conducted two enforcement operations in collaboration with the Police and the Department of Health (DH) at two buildings which had been included in compulsory testing notices issued earlier.

Mr Shi, who participated in the planning and execution of both operations, said, "Both operations were conducted smoothly because of the close collaboration among all MD team members. Our colleagues verified as quickly and effectively as they could the testing certifications of persons subject to compulsory testing with an aim to minimising the inconvenience caused to residents. We are grateful for the assistance provided by the representatives of the Police District and DH who teamed up with us. Gratitude is also extended to the residents for their understanding and co-operation."

### **MD staff received the Chief Executive's Commendation for Government/ Public Service**

This year, several hundreds of people were awarded the Chief Executive's Commendation for Government/Public Service to honour their significant contributions to the fight against the COVID-19 epidemic. Among the recipients are the Marine Department (MD)'s former Assistant Director/Planning and Services, Mr. Tony Chan, and Senior Marine Officer/ Quality Assurance and Development, Mr. Jiang Gui-Fu.

The Director of Marine, Ms. Carol Yuen, congratulated Mr. Chan and Mr. Jiang on their well-deserved awards. She also would like to thank MD staff for their concerted effort to shoulder various anti-epidemic responsibilities wholeheartedly.

### **Cross-harbour race**

The New World Harbour Race, organised by the Hong Kong China Swimming Association, was held on 23 October 2022. A total of 1,203 swimmers set off from Wan Chai Golden Bauhinia Square Public Pier and splashed their way to the finishing point at the Avenue of Stars on the Tsim Sha Tsui waterfront.

Victoria Harbour is a very busy harbour. To safeguard the swimmers' safety and ensure the smooth running of the event, in addition to giving advice during the preparation process, the Marine Department (MD) deployed patrol launches to command on-scene marine traffic and prevent vessels from entering the track. During the event, MD's Vessel Traffic Centre monitored ocean-going and river-trade vessels in the waters concerned and broadcasted safety messages to the vessels through VHF channels, while the Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre was on standby for emergency situations.

### **48th anniversary of the opening of PCWAs**

To celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Establishment of the HKSAR cum the 48th Anniversary of the Opening of the Public Cargo Working Areas (PCWAs), the PCWAs trade held the "Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the 48th Anniversary of the Opening of the PCWAs Photo Exhibition" at the Central Ferry Pier on 27 August.

The Exhibition displayed commemorative photos of the PCWAs showing the roles and working conditions of different personnel in the PCWAs, including stevedores, crew members, lifting gears operators, signalmen and tally clerks. The event aimed to inspire youngsters or people interested in local logistics and shipping industry to join the field.