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Bi-Monthly Publication of the **Singapore Maritime Officers' Union** and **Wavelink Co-operative**

BONDS THAT BIND THE SMOU FAMILY



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Wavelink Building
75 Jellicoe Road #02-01
Singapore 208738

Tel : [65] 6396 0123
Fax : [65] 6339 5436
Website : www.smou.org.sg

Operating hours:

Mon to Fri : 9am to 6pm
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SMOU ES & NMP MARY LIEW FOCUSED ON LOW-INCOME GROUPS AND INFLATION IN PARLIAMENT

In her maiden speech as a Nominated Member of Parliament (NMP) on 28 February 2012, SMOU Executive Secretary, Ms Mary Liew touched on topics including helping the elderly, women, low income Singaporeans and increasing the salaries of bus drivers.



Ms Mary Liew highlighted her concern about the bottom 20 per cent of low wage workers, whose long working hours do not always commensurate with fair remuneration. Ms Liew suggested that more could be done for the bus drivers in the Government's bid to enhance the country's public transportation system. She questioned how the \$1.1 billion given to public transport operators (PTOs) will be spent, and explained the tough nature of a bus driver's job. The long hours of work, with short break times in between gave some insight into the shortage of bus drivers. The call to increase the salaries of bus drivers was also supported by Labour Members of Parliament (MP) and others.

The Minister for Transport, Mr Lui Tuck Yew responded that the decision of salary increments for workers in the bus industry should be left to the PTOs, as they will need to balance improving the overall terms of employment while also retaining their existing drivers.

Public Transport Operators Respond in April

With the concerted efforts of the NTUC and the National Transport Workers' Union (NTWU), SBS Transit announced in April 2012 an increase in the basic monthly pay of new Singaporean drivers by 16 per cent to \$1,600 in a bid to attract new drivers. SBS spokeswoman, Ms Tammy Tan added that with overtime and allowance, an SBS bus driver would now earn about \$2,250 a month in gross salary in their first year of service. Over 1,900 existing Singaporean bus drivers would receive a pay rise of \$225, whereas non-Singaporean bus drivers are to receive smaller increases of between \$75 and \$150.

Describing the successful outcome of the union's efforts, Executive Secretary for the National Transport Workers' Union (NTWU), Mr Ong Ye Kung commented that SBS Transit's pay hike across the board is a fair move in order to attract more Singaporeans in joining the public transport sector.

Following suit to keep abreast of market developments, SMRT increased the basic monthly salary for new Singaporean bus drivers by about 35 per cent. The previous monthly wage of \$1,200 has increased to \$1,625. Including overtime, allowances and incentives, new bus drivers will take home an average monthly wage of about \$2,500. A change that came along with the salary increase is a six-day work week for SMRT bus drivers, but the bus drivers' daily

SMOU ES & NMP MARY LIEW FOCUSED ON LOW-INCOME GROUPS AND INFLATION IN PARLIAMENT

working hours are reduced from 8.8 to 7.3 hours with the new 44-hour week.

Inflation, Cost of Living and Wages

In another Parliament sitting on 14 May 2012, Ms Liew asked the Minister for Trade and Industry, Mr Lim Hng Kiang, about the measures in place to control the inflation rate, the Ministry's assessment of the inflation rate, and how the Government will assist affected Singaporeans in mitigating higher costs of living. Inflation rates, cost of living and wages were the concerns brought up by Members of Parliament (MPs) as they have received feedback from residents about the increasing prices of food, utility bills and the prospect of public transport fares rising again in 2013.

Mr Lim responded, saying that the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) keeps imported inflation in check by tightening the monetary policy stance further through an appreciation of the Singaporean dollar. This close monitoring move by MAS also serves to moderate external demand for local exports, which in turn reduces demand-led pressures on inflation.

In cushioning the impact of the rising cost of living on households, Mr Lim explained the cash grants provided by the Government, such as the U-Save rebates which offset the utility bills of HDB households directly.

Adding on, the Retail Price Watch Group (RPWG) keeps a close watch on the excessive pricing of daily necessities. So far, the RPWG has worked with supermarkets, wholesalers, hawkers and food courts to promote the availability of cheaper alternatives and educate consumers on money-effective methods of shopping. Supermarket members such as NTUC FairPrice, Giant and Sheng Shiong held the prices of their house-brand products constant for at least six months in 2011 to help consumers cope with the rising cost of living.

Helping Lower Income Groups

Ms Liew also questioned whether initiatives would be put in place to help the lower income groups, should high inflation continue to persist, and if the Government could help prevent any disruption in price stability.

Mr Lim responded saying, "What was put into the Budget package this year was done in consideration of the inflation situation we expected. We had expected inflation to remain stubborn this year and to tail off gradually towards the second half of the year. This was one of the key considerations in

our Budget package which had a very generous and inclusive package for the low-wage households."

In closing, Ms Liew posted a question to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Manpower on whether there has been any study done to assess the adequacy of the Central Provident Fund (CPF) savings to meet the retirement needs of current young workers, in particular the lower and middle income groups. This concern was raised to determine if the current CPF savings rate of 36 per cent and its returns would be sufficient for financial support as this group of workers age.

Mr Hawazi Daipi, Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Education and Manpower, responded that 70 to 80 per cent of current workers should be able to attain the current amount set for the Minimum Sum (MS) in cash adjusted for inflation and sufficient to meet the typical expenditure needs of retiree households by the time they retire. For the minority who are unable to meet the MS in cash when they retire, their CPF balances would have been boosted through the Workfare Income Supplement (WIS). Their CPF accounts would still be sufficient for them to own a home. It was also acknowledged that there will still be a small segment of the population who will not be able to save up enough for retirement, and they will require financial assistance through other means beyond the CPF.

Ms Liew then pressed on to question if more could be done by the government to ensure that the future values of CPF savings would be protected and not diminished in the face of high inflation rate.

Mr Daipi explained the government's efforts in encouraging workers to work and build up their CPF savings. In addition, the government has placed more focus on creating jobs and helping workers to earn better salaries. The re-employment legislation will help workers to be employed beyond the statutory retirement age, developing their retirement adequacy.

He added that older workers' CPF contribution rate will be increased in September this year, helping them accumulate more savings at a faster rate as they work. The government helps lower income CPF members through the WIS, boosting their CPF balances should they be unable to meet the MS. However, it is also essential to educate members on the prudent use of their CPF savings, for housing or in their investment choices. The MS top-up scheme has been liberalised for CPF members to save more for retirement. Introducing CPF LIFE aims to improve members' retirement adequacy by ensuring their savings last a lifetime.

SEAFARING: A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR YOUNG SINGAPOREANS

The Tripartite Nautical Training Award (TNTA) programme was launched in 2009 to encourage Singaporeans to join the maritime sector and enable them to pursue a promising career sailing onboard international vessels as seafaring officers.



Capt KK Yeow, from NOL, sharing his industry experience

Jointly rolled out by the Singapore Maritime Officers' Union (SMOU), National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) e2i (Employment and Employability Institute), Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA) and supported by the Singapore Shipping Association (SSA), the TNTA programme has seen three cohorts of cadets graduate from the pre-sea phase and spending their 18 months stint onboard vessels at sea.

Recruiting Aspiring Seafarers

A series of recruitment sessions were held at Bukit Batok Community Centre on 29 May 2012, at Kampong Kembangan Community Centre on 6 June 2012 and e2i Redhill on 19 June 2012. These sessions saw more than 260 applicants attend the briefings and talks.



Capt Robin Foo speaking with a participant of the recruitment drive



e2i officers screening applicants



Are you ready to take on a sea career? Screening by e2i

Each recruitment session lasted three hours, during which participants underwent an industry and programme briefing by e2i and Wavelink Maritime Institute (WMI). Mr Larry Chan from WMI shared about the TNTA programme and what cadets could expect, while Ms Delphine Poh from e2i spoke about the maritime industry and the career prospects of seafarers.

Participants of the recruitment drive undertook a career coaching session and job screening by e2i officers, allowing them to assess their suitability for a seafaring career. Aspiring cadets then had a chance to interact and engage in networking sessions with industry experts, obtaining more information about the maritime industry and the TNTA programme. TNTA Advisory Committee Chairman, Capt KK Yeow, WMI lecturers, SMOU Officials and staff, Capt Edwin Lim and Mr Santosh were also present to provide their expertise, experience and answer queries from participants.

What is TNTA?

SMOU and e2i are looking to attract young Singaporeans with at least a GCE 'N' Level certificate including passes in English, Physics and Mathematics, to join the industry.

TRIPARTITE NAUTICAL TRAINING AWARD RECRUITMENT DRIVE



Capt SK Menon from WMI engaging with participants

Candidates found suitable for the TNTA programme will undertake six months of pre-sea training, followed by 18 months of shipboard learning at sea before returning to complete a preparatory programme which lasts for four and a half months. This is followed by two months of Standards of Training, Certification & Watchkeeping (STCW) courses, culminating with a Class 3 Certificate of Competency (CoC3) examination assessed by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA).

Once candidates successfully complete all phases of the training and obtain their CoC3, they will be licensed to work onboard international vessels. The 30 and a half month long training programme will be conducted by WMI.

SMOU General Secretary, Mr Thomas Tay commented, "The TNTA programme demonstrates the commitment of the Government and shipping employers towards Investing in the future of maritime manpower development, a crucial factor for Singapore as a maritime hub. Most importantly this is also to help our Singaporeans to get better paying jobs to provide for their families and to have better lives."

TNTA Committee Improves On Selection Process

The TNTA Advisory Committee is a platform to share valuable information on improving the selection process of TNTA candidates. Members of the committee include management representatives from AET, e2i, Maersk Tankers Singapore, NSSPL, NYK, PACC, WDA and WMI. Other suggestions arising from the committee include implementing a mentoring system, giving cadets an



Mr Santosh Kholsa from Maersk Tankers Singapore shares his experience at sea



SMOU Senior IRO, Mr Alvin Cheong answering the queries of a participant

opportunity to tap on the experiences of seafaring officers, to gain valuable insights and practice their skills out at sea.

Also introduced was the inclusion of the entrance examination and psychometric tests as part of the selection process to determine the suitability of candidates for the position. The new improvements in the selection process were implemented in the recruitment exercises.



Ms Delphine Poh from e2i Redhill sharing her knowledge on the maritime industry

A Bright Future

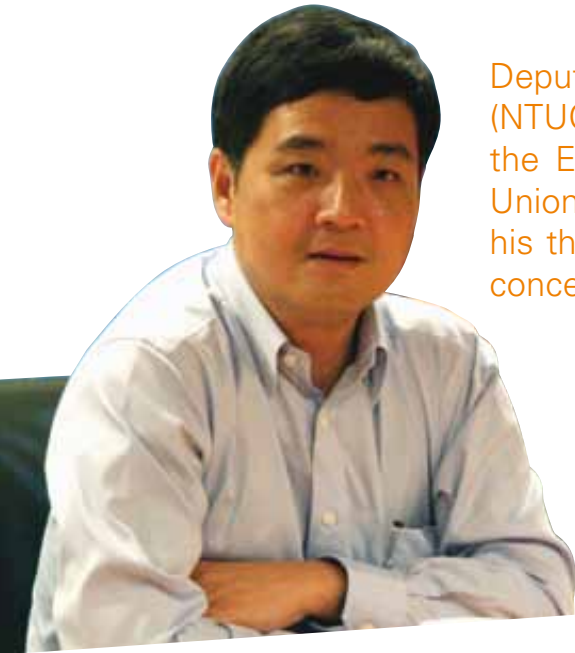
There are about 95,000 vessels sailing globally and for those who are willing to work onboard a vessel, the rewards are promising. Seafarers who are starting out as 3rd Officers are estimated to be earning a monthly wage from US\$2,500 onwards. Seafarers could reach the rank of ship Captain and earn anywhere from US\$5,000 to US\$25,000 monthly.

"The TNTA programme demonstrates the commitment of the Government, Shipping industry and the union towards investing in the future of maritime manpower development, a crucial factor for Singapore as a maritime hub."

– Capt Edwin Lim (right), Head of Learning and Development, AET Ship Management Singapore Pte Ltd. Capt Lim is also a member of the TNTA Advisory Committee



NTUC DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL ENGAGES WITH SMOU EXCO



Deputy Secretary-General of National Trades Union Congress (NTUC), Mr Heng Chee How had an engaging discussion with the Executive Committee of the Singapore Maritime Officers' Union (SMOU). Held on 17 April 2012 at SMOU, Mr Heng shared his thoughts and offered constructive suggestions on issues of concern to SMOU ExCo leaders.

Mr Heng engaged SMOU ExCo members on a range of issues, including economic competitiveness, inclusiveness and labour issues.

He shared the benefits of productivity for workers and the maritime industry to build a sustainable and reliable maritime core of the Singapore's workforce.

Mr Heng also praised the efforts of SMOU's initiative in the Tripartite Nautical Training Award (TNTA) programme. He stressed on how essential it was to work with government agencies to align the programme with strengthening Singapore's core workforce.



A VISUAL TREAT FOR SINGLE MOTHERS

In collaboration between NTUC Women's Development Secretariat (WDS) and the Singapore Flyer, some 100 single mothers and their children took a free ride on the Singapore landmark under the 'WeCare For U Project'.

Vice-Chairman of NTUC Women's Committee, Ms Mary Liew who is also the Executive Secretary of Singapore Maritime Officers' Union (SMOU), attended the event. Attendees were treated to a breathtaking view of the Singapore skyline onboard the Singapore Flyer, as mothers and their children took the opportunity to strengthen their bonds.

The event, which took place on 13 May 2012, is a project that started since 2009, aimed at encouraging independence and resilience among single mothers. Since its launch, the project has reached out to 1,359 single mothers, recognising their efforts in raising their children single-handedly.

After experiencing some high-altitude bonding, the mothers and their children were treated to a Mother's Day lunch at the Singapore Food Trail.

"It is touching and heart-warming when the capsule reached the peak. We witnessed the children expressing their love and appreciation to their mums by presenting their hand-made cards, handicraft items and flowers. In the Labour Movement, we hope to continue to reach out to the single mums and their kids so that they know we care for them."

– Ms Mary Liew, Executive Secretary of SMOU



UNIONS ATTEND ASSM AND NASCO IN SURABAYA

More than 60 maritime unionists from over 30 countries across Asia attended the 29th Asian Seafarers' Summit Meeting (ASSM) and the 22nd Norwegian-Asian Seafarers' Committee (NASCO) held in Surabaya, Indonesia. Held on 28 and 29 May 2012, the unions presented their country's report on the assistance and efforts made against the piracy situation.

SMOU officials who attended the summit included General Secretary, Mr Thomas Tay, Industrial Relations (IR) Manager, Mr Gwee Duo Duan and Industrial Relations Officer, Mr Terence Tan. They presented Singapore's report, raising the case of a Singapore-flagged vessel, whom they assisted in mediation collaboratively with the Singapore Organisation of Seamen (SOS) and the Maritime & Port Authority of Singapore (MPA). Together, the three parties sought to mediate the hostage situation as they monitored the situation and communicated with the crew onboard.



The meeting went on to discuss about more potential measures against piracy, assistance provided by unions, having armed guards onboard shipping vessels and the usage of best management practices by shipping companies. The 29th ASSM and 22nd NASCO is a platform for maritime unions from the Asia Pacific region to discuss and work towards better cooperation.

Maritime unions were also invited to visit the well-equipped BP2IP Seafarers Education and Training Centre, one of seven maritime education and training centers managed by the Indonesian Transportation Ministry's education and training body.



SMOU JOINS FORCES TO HELP TROUBLED CREW ON NIGERIAN VESSEL TO RECOVER WAGES

On 16 May 2012, ITF Inspector, Mr Ranjan Perera from the National Union of Seafarers Sri Lanka (NUSS) flagged up the Nigerian vessel "Excellent Diver" to various affiliates of the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF), including Singapore.

Onboard the troubled vessel, the crew were made up of five Sri Lankans and five Bangladeshis. The crew were close to being repatriated as they were closing in on the maximum of 150 days allowed for seafarers to be in Singapore.

The vessel had been under repairs in a shipyard for almost four months, and the crew were owed their salaries for three months. Various avenues were exhausted by ITF affiliates to mediate the situation, which included approaching the Nigerian High Commission.

Finally on 30 May 2012, the Nigerian High Commission authorised Singapore agent, Presea Marine Services Pte Ltd to facilitate the payment of wages to the crew of Excellent Diver. The Nigerian High Commission would reimburse the agent, and eventually chase the owners of Excellent Diver for the amount owed.

The costs incurred in repatriating the 10 crew members were included in the termination package. The total amount of claims against the owners of the vessel amounted to US\$31,150 (S\$40,000). The payment of the wages to the crew was witnessed by Mr Daylen Tan from the Singapore Maritime Officers' Union (SMOU) and Mr Mohamad Abu Bakar from Singapore Organisation of Seamen (SOS).



ITF OFFSHORE TASKFORCE GROUP SETS INTEREST IN SINGAPORE



The International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) had its Offshore Task Force Group (OTFG) meeting from 18 to 20 June 2012. Held at the Singapore Organisation of Seamen (SOS), the meeting was chaired by Mr Norrie McVicar, Chairperson of the ITF OTFG. Some 50 delegates from across the world attended the meeting. SMOU was represented by General Secretary, Mr Thomas Tay, Executive Secretary, Ms Mary Liew, Industrial Relations Manager, Mr Gwee Duo Guan, Senior Industrial Relations Officer (IRO), Mr Alvin Cheong, and IRO Mr Daylen Tan.

The meeting discussed considerations by the ITF OTFG with an emphasis on the Asia region. This follows the increasing number of offshore companies who are setting up their enterprises in Singapore. The meeting also addressed the issue of actualising a model for the offshore taskforce agreements.

The ITF OTFG also expressed interest in holding seminars and dialogues in Singapore, to serve as a communication channel with Singapore offshore companies in the future. The meeting elaborated on the Norwegian North Sea Social Dumping Campaign and reviewed the Offshore Standard Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) and the Norwegian Model Agreement. Finally, the ITF OTFG

was invited to consider setting realistic targets for future campaigns where gaining collective support gives a good possibility of securing positive outcomes.





*Lighthouse Bistro
Opening Special
for SMOU Members*



A fresh and new Lighthouse Bistro is back this June!

As part of our opening special, all SMOU members will receive a complimentary four-course set dinner.

All dinner redemptions have been mailed to SMOU members.

So make a date with Lighthouse Bistro today!

SMOU UNION ELECTION NOTICE

Reminder for Ordinary members

Please update your subscription payments as SMOU will be commencing its Union election process in November 2012.

Only ordinary members who are eligible and up-to-date with their union subscription will be eligible to vote in accordance with the Union Constitution.

SMOU members can call the SMOU One-Stop Service centre at **6396-0123** to check their subscription status.



WITHDRAWING YOUR SEAFARERS' PROVIDENT FUND ONLINE

Save with the Seafarers' Provident Fund!

This savings scheme for SMOU members under the Seafarers' Provident Fund (SPF) ensures that seafarers' interests and well-being are well taken care of. Financial assistance is rendered to seafarers and their families in times of emergency, and when seafarers choose to withdraw their contributions.

Criteria to withdraw SPF contributions:

- ▶ Seafarers who have reached 50 years of age; and
- ▶ Seafarers who have held an SPF account for at least three years

Seafarers and officers may view their balance and opt to withdraw their SPF funds via the online system at: www.ispf.org.sg

Officers may register for an SPF account through the following steps:

1. Go to www.ispf.org.sg
2. Click "Member registration"
3. Enter all the particulars required by the system (SMOU ID and Thrift ID are not compulsory fields) and click "Register".
4. A confirmation email will be sent by the iSPF system to the member's email.
5. Go to "www.ispf.org.sg" again to key in member's username
6. Click the "iSPF Member" button.
7. Click the "Log in" button

A SPLASHING TIME AT SMOU FAMILY DAY

The Singapore Maritime Officers' Union (SMOU) held its Family Day at Downtown East's Wild Wild Wet this year. More than 1,000 SMOU members, families, representatives from shipping companies spent a fun-filled day on 10 June 2012.



A Big Thank You

SMOU is grateful to the following shipping companies who generously sponsored the lucky draw prizes:

- Maersk Tankers Singapore Pte Ltd
- PACC Ship Managers Pte Ltd
- Pacific International Line Pte Ltd
- Singa Star Pte Ltd
- Western Shipping Pte Ltd



“When I heard about the SMOU Family Day, I was excited! I first attended the annual family day two years ago, and this time around, I just couldn’t miss it. Once in a while, it’s good for all to come together especially during the school holidays. Thank you SMOU for giving us the chance to purchase the affordable tickets, making this family day meaningful.”

– Ms Fauziah Bte Mohd Yusof (in red t-shirt), SMOU Member of six years.



“I’ve been a SMOU member for four years and this is my first time participating in SMOU’s family day. It’s nice to see all the other members and their families all coming together. I came here today because it’s a big family event where I get to meet and know more people.”

– Mr J P Nautiyal, SMOU Member of four years.



A large, stylized illustration of a hand in yellow and red, gripping a thick yellow oar. The background is a radial pattern of white and red lines, suggesting motion and energy.

Dragonboat Experiential Programme

Experience Fun through Serious Learning!

Dragonboat Experiential Programme is one of the leadership development initiatives designed to incorporate "Serious Fun-Learning" Join us and have fun!

Date: 25 August 2012 (Saturday)
Time: 8.30am – 2.30pm
Venue: Kallang Water Sports Centre (Activity)
Lighthouse Bistro (Lunch)

Interested? Visit smou one-stop service centre
or register online at www.smou.org.sg.

A starburst graphic with a jagged, multi-pointed border, containing the text "ONLY \$2*" in a bold, sans-serif font.

ONLY
\$2*

SMOU TOGETHER WITH MPA ENGAGES YOUNG MARINERS

YOUNG MARINERS' NETWORKING SESSION

Held twice a year, the Young Mariners' Networking session, organised by Singapore Maritime Officers' Union (SMOU) and Maritime & Port Authority of Singapore (MPA), was held at the Cassia Room at Downtown East.



Guest speaker Mr Tan Kwang Keng gives an overview of the industry

The networking session on 23 May 2012 was hosted by Mr Loy Xing Lu, a 22 year-old student from Singapore Polytechnic's Diploma in Nautical Studies, who gave an introduction of the day's events to some 40 Young SMOU cadets. After an ice-breaker game, Young SMOU Chairman, Mr Terence Tan gave a welcome address to cadets, followed by President of SMOU, Capt Robin Foo. Cadets then had an informative and interactive session on personal grooming for students with knowledge on the basic rules of dressing and choices of accessories.

Wavelink Maritime Institute (WMI) Trainer Mr Tan Kwang Keng gave a talk on the piracy situation at sea. Cadets were brought up to date with the real dangers of being at sea, as Mr Tan explained the increasing aggressiveness of pirates.

Mr Tan went through the four fundamentals of Best Management Practices (BMP). Cadets learnt about self-protective measures to avoid, delay and deter pirate attacks. This aspect of seafaring served as an important learning point as it is not yet covered in the tertiary syllabus, explained 18 year-old Ms Ng Xin Wei,

a student from the Diploma in Marine Engineering. The talk proved to be enriching and informative for Ms Ng and her peers.

Assistant Director of MPA, Mr Tay Yeow Min attended the session and presented a token of appreciation to Mr Tan. Cadets later took part in a quiz to test their knowledge from the workshop, including the various protective measures against pirates.

During the night, cadets took part in educational games. The night ended with Mr Tay and Mr Terence Tan giving away participation prizes to the energetic and enthusiastic bunch of students.

"The information shared by Mr Tan Kwang Keng and the interactions between union members and students were informative. I hope to have the opportunity to hear real life experiences of seafarers in the coming sessions. This networking session has given me a chance to interact with my juniors in the same course of study." – Mr Neo Kia Seng, 23, APL Singapore



Young SMOU Members with (second from right) MPA Assistant Director, Mr Tay Yeow Min

OUR VISION

The Number One
Professional, Dynamic
and Growing Organisation
For The Maritime
Community
And Beyond.



Subsidiary Companies and Business Divisions



TRAINING CALENDAR

August - October 2012							
Course Title	Date	Duration	Course Fee	Course Title	Date	Duration	Course Fee
MPA Mandatory Courses							
Pilotage Exemption (Large Vessel) Course & Assessment	On Demand	5 hrs	\$2,675.00	Experienced Tug Master (Refresher)	On Demand	1.5 Hrs	\$460.10
Pilotage Exemption (Large Vessel) Renewal Assessment	On Demand	2.5 hrs	\$1,401.70	Passenger Ferry Safety (New)	On Demand	1 Day	\$294.25
Pilotage Exemption (Small Vessel) New	On Demand	1 Day	\$383.06	Passenger Ferry Safety (Refresher)	On Demand	4 Hrs	\$230.05
Pilotage Exemption (Small Vessel) Refresher	On Demand	3 hrs	\$333.80	Port Limit Special Grade (Deck Officer)	On Demand	3 Days	\$449.40
Port Limit Tanker Master (New)	On Demand	1.5 Days	\$591.70	Bunker Surveying Course	On Demand	2 Days	\$321.00
Port Limit Tanker Master (Refresher)	On Demand	4 hrs	\$255.70	Oil Spill Control	On Demand	1 Day	\$171.20
Tug Master (New)	On Demand	3 hrs	\$837.80				
Maritime Courses							
Maritime Resource Management Course (MRM)	10 - 12 Sept	3 Days	\$909.50	IMO Model Course 3.19* (Ship Security Officer)	31 Jul - 1 Aug 11 - 12 Sept	2 Days	\$642.00
Maritime Resource & Bridge Team Management Course	10 - 14 Sept	5 Days	\$1,605.00	IMO Model Course 3.20* (Company Security Officer)	31 Jul - 2 Aug 11 - 13 Sept	3 Days	\$963.00
IMO Model Course 1.27 (Operational Use of ECDIS)	13 - 17 Aug 15 - 19 Oct	5 Days	\$1,016.50	IMO Model Course 3.21* (Port Facility Security Officer)	14 - 16 Aug 16 - 18 Oct	3 Days	\$963.00
IMO Model Course 1.22 (Ship Simulator and Bridge Teamwork)	12 - 14 Sept	3 Days	\$1,070.00	ISM & ISPS Internal Auditor*	25 - 27 Sept	3 Days	\$1,284.00
Shiphandling Course	12 - 14 Sept	3 Days	\$1,284.00	ISM Internal Auditor*	25 - 26 Sept	2 Days	\$695.50
Ship Safety Officer Course	On Demand	2 Days	\$642.00	ISPS Internal Auditor*	26 - 27 Sept	2 Days	\$856.00
Maritime Introductory Courses							
Familiarisation on Operational Use of ECDIS	13 - 14 Aug 15 - 16 Oct	2 Days	\$535.00	Designated Person Ashore (DPA) Training Course	29 - 30 Aug 30 - 31 Oct	2 Days	\$749.00
Safety Culture for Optimum Safety Performance	On Demand	1 Day	\$272.85	Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 Awareness Programme*	28 Aug 22 Oct	1 Day	\$321.00
Ship Security Awareness Course	On Demand	1 Day	\$171.20	Familiarisation with Shipping Terms & Maritime Jargon	On Demand	1 Day	\$272.85
				Introduction to Risk Management	On Demand	1 Day	\$272.85

* Maritime Cluster Fund (MCF) available to eligible participants

Course Fees inclusive of 7% GST

Visit us at: www.wavelink.com.sg/wmi



For registration or enquiries, please contact:
Ms Christina Tey
Tel: (65) 6390 1651
Fax: (65) 6295 1121
Email: courses@wavelink.com.sg

For MPA Mandatory Courses, please contact
Mr Kevin Loh
Tel: (65) 6874 7782
Fax: (65) 6874 7666
Email: kevin@wavelink.com.sg
Mr Rivin
Tel: (65) 6874 7782
Fax: (65) 6874 7666

PASSION TO LEARN; PASSION FOR THE SEA

Experience and passion for the sea seems to be the main drivers for a seafaring career. We hear from two cadets how the Tripartite Nautical Training Award (TNTA) programme has given them a push to fulfill their dreams.



The Fuel To Succeed

Mr Afham Hatim Bin Kamarudin is a 26 year-old trainee officer with Bourbon Offshore after going through the Tripartite Nautical Training Award (TNTA) programme.

He has previously sailed for 13 months as a Rig Assistant Mechanic.

Mr Kamarudin took on the seafaring career aiming to ease his family's financial obligations with his father being an executive in a law firm and his mother a part-time school canteen assistant. In his previous job as an assistant mechanic, Mr Kamarudin worked on rigs with his brother for almost two years, which served to spur his passion towards the offshore sector. Even as work was challenging and hazardous, Mr Kamarudin's fervour for working in the offshore industry fueled his positive outlook on seeking better employment with a higher salary.

He approached the Employment and Employability Institute (e2i), where he was recommended to go through a six-month course in Electrical and Mechanical Engineering at the Institute of Technical Education (ITE). Upon completion of the course and having seen an advertisement for a recruitment drive for a seafaring career under the TNTA programme by Singapore Maritime Officers' Union (SMOU), Mr Kamarudin took the opportunity to apply for the TNTA

programme and undergo the selection process, where he eventually went through three rounds of interview with e2i, SMOU and his shipping employer.

With an advantage of his past experience working on a rig, Mr Kamarudin gained the opportunity to work as a cadet for Bourbon Offshore. Recalling his experience when he first started working, Mr Kamarudin elaborated on the challenges which came along with working with a culturally diverse crew. This meant adapting to various cultures, working styles and even diets. Mr Kamarudin took on a proactive attitude onboard and was not afraid to ask questions when in doubt. He overcame difficulties by looking at problems as challenges.

Exhausting Yet Memorable

One of Mr Kamarudin's memorable moments onboard was reeling in huge ropes of towing equipment for 18 hours a day, for three consecutive days. He worked shoulder to shoulder with his fellow crew and stretched every muscle of his body to fulfil the assigned task. As tiring and demanding as it was, personal safety remained a priority on the cadet's mind. Mr Kamarudin views the seafaring career as an extremely eventful life, as life at sea will continuously present to cadets different scenarios and challenges depending on the weather and the nature of tasks assigned.

"Patience, because we need to believe in ourselves and tell ourselves that what we go through at the moment will lead to something better later on. This is a stepping stone to a great career. Thus, we must have patience to go through what we have to, in order to reach the destination of a brighter future."

- Mr Kamarudin sharing an essential value of aspiring seafarers



PURSuing SEAFARING CAREER FOR A BETTER LIFE

Mr Selvakumar graduated from the third batch of the TNTA programme and is now sailing with BW Fleet Management Pte Ltd.

In the nine months he has been sailing, 27 year-old Mr Selvakumar has visited a myriad of countries including the United States, the Bahamas, Netherlands, United Arab Emirates, Malaysia and Japan. He graduated from Singapore Polytechnic's Diploma in Electrical and Computer Control Engineering and entered the army to become an SAF Regular.

After seeing a newspaper advertisement by e2i on the TNTA programme, Mr Selvakumar decided to grab the opportunity to pursue his aspirations to become a seafarer and eventually become a world class Captain. He saw this as a golden opportunity to secure a better future for himself and his family, especially his parents, sisters and a brother.

Joining the programme enriched Mr Selvakumar's nautical knowledge and reinforced his confidence to excel and perform as a deck cadet. He found that it was beneficial for aspiring cadets to be taught by ex-Captains or Chief Engineers, as they passed down invaluable experiential and theoretical knowledge. The TNTA programme made Mr Selvakumar's seafaring dreams possible.

Gaining Trustworthiness

When asked of his most memorable onboard experience, Mr Selvakumar recalled a task he completed well on time with his co-workers and earned the respect of his ship's Captain and Co-Captain. He was initially assigned to carry out cosmetic maintenance on the pressure vacuum breaker as part of the vessel experience in maintenance. Mr Selvakumar then delegated the task of rigging the



scaffolding and safety harness to the crew before carrying out the maintenance with them. At the same time, he assisted the Third Officer to inspect the safety and fire-fighting equipments for the intermediate survey. After all the tasks were fulfilled within a week, the inspection by his supervisors found nothing lacking and Mr Selvakumar was thankful for the opportunity to demonstrate his leadership abilities.

"Life at sea can be really tough or exciting, depending on how you look at it. It's been an exciting journey for me and the only reason why I'm enjoying it boils down to how I approach each new experience and challenge with an open mind. There is always something new to learn and some amazing things you will see at sea, like the galaxy or stars you see in the darkness while you are in the middle of the ocean or even round the Cape of Good Hope. If you truly want to be a captain one day, cherish every learning opportunity onboard and you will enjoy this journey. And perhaps, one day captain your own ship." - Cadet from TNTA programme, Mr Selvakumar



WMI SETS UP NAUTICAL LAB

In advocating the provision of maritime training and education, Wavelink Maritime Institute has set up a Nautical Lab to facilitate computer-based training (CBT) and offer a nautical reference library for pre-sea cadet training.

The Manila amendments to the STCW Convention and Code marked a major revision, which included "knowledge-based training" as a requirement to train seafarers in modern technology. Of which, trainees will have to be trained in using electronic charts and various information systems.

Setting up a Nautical Lab in Wavelink Building would be beneficial for trainees to upgrade their skills and learn in a conducive environment. WMI foresees that the resource room will prove to be very useful for pre-sea cadets and a forward-looking method of training them.

The reference library in the Nautical Lab will also offer a wide selection of more than 200 maritime publications. Equipped with five personal computers, trainees will also be able to carry out research on the Internet, and learn better through the aid of computer-based training facilities.

"I'm glad to learn that there is a new study area which comprise a computer-based training set-up and access to a well-resourced nautical library. It is a magnificent place for us to study and prepare ourselves for our CoC examinations and to assist our career development."

– Mr Selvakumar, TNTA Cadet



MLC 2006 AWARENESS PROGRAMME

The International Labour Organisation's (ILO) Maritime Labour Convention (MLC), 2006 serves to provide a comprehensive list of rights and protection at work for the world's seafarers. Wavelink Maritime Institute (WMI) aims to share valuable knowledge and understanding to meet the requirements of MLC, 2006. This one-day MLC Awareness Programme is catered for ship officers, maritime and shipping executives who can play a pivotal role in meeting the requirements of the Convention to understand the essentials of the MLC, 2006.

Participants will get the chance to learn:

- The need for ILO Conventions in Maritime Shipping
- The General Obligations required of the MLC, 2006
- How to comply with the regulations
- Implementations and enforcement principles

Date: Tuesday, 28 August 2012

Time: 9am to 5pm

Cost: \$321* (inclusive of GST)

For registration and enquiries, please contact:

Tel: +65 6390 1651

Email: wmi@wavelink.com.sg

*Maritime Cluster Fund (MCF) available to eligible participants

WMI CONDUCTS 4TH CADETSPLUS IN PHILIPPINES

CadetsPlus Philippines saw some 80 cadets graduate on 25 May 2012 at the University of Cebu. After four weeks, the aspiring cadets are ready to sail in international waters after their training at the University of Cebu. The training in Cebu, Philippines was held from 30 April to 25 May 2012.

Shipping employers employing these CadetsPlus graduates include AET Ship Management, BW Fleet Management, Celeste Holding, Ishima, Maersk Tankers Singapore, MOL, PACC Ship Managers and Posh Fleet Services.

SMOU's President, Capt Robin Foo gave an opening speech at the Cebu CadetsPlus Graduation. He congratulated the graduates who are the 4th cohort of the programme in the Philippines, as they become seafaring officers who will represent their countries sailing the world's oceans. He commended on the national initiatives rolled out by the Philippines governments and partners which contributed towards



the success of Filipino seafaring labour.

Capt Foo expressed hope for the bipartite relationship to grow stronger, to benefit young mariners with their guidance and endless opportunities. He reiterated the objective of the Wavelink CadetsPlus programme which was to equip young cadets with the relevant skills to ensure that they are ready for life at sea and know the importance of safety. The result of the programme mutually benefits seafarers and shipping companies as their needs are matched.

The cadets were also reminded not to forget to look out for their fellow seamen when out at sea, and ensure safety as a top priority. Capt Foo urged cadets that it would be a prime opportunity for them to apply the knowledge they have learnt from one of their subjects, Shipboard Safety.

SMOU is grateful to the University of Cebu for facilitating the training and their hospitality for the cadets and maritime trainers.



WAVELINK TRAVEL OFFERS TRIPS WITH CORPORATE SOCIAL CAUSE

Today, organisations are expected to pursue a more active role in the social and environmental impacts of their businesses. Encouraged to 'give back', organisations are practicing Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and using this as a platform to 'give back' to society.

Customers and employees are now looking past simply great products or services and venturing into the values of an organisation. Organisations that are able to 'give back' to society gives an impression of sound business dealings and conveys good moral and social values.

As such, CSR activities have become increasingly essential in developing business and people. It is no surprise that more companies are now utilising community-based projects or events as a more meaningful and enriching experience as compared to other corporate activities.

Recognising that there is no one-size-fits-all solution, Wavelink Travel can help organisations or companies explore and implement their CSR projects overseas. By providing customised travel options; consistent and accurate information for good decision-making; and implement solutions to match organisational needs.

What Wavelink Travel does is it offers a bridge between the community that is in need and the organisations that wish to give. This allows organisations to enhance their corporate image by showing concern for the needs of the communities. Eventually, aid is channeled to the community that needs help.

Wavelink Travel has since partnered many organisations and institutions to carry out various exciting CSR projects with meaningful objectives. CSR Programmes have been carried out in countries like Taiwan, Macau and Philippines.

Currently, Wavelink Travel is partnering Woh Hup Pte Ltd and Shangri-La

Singapore on their respective CSR Programmes in the Philippines, extending resources to fulfill their travel arrangement needs. It is working with Ngee Ann Polytechnic as well for such projects, slated to take place next year.

Wavelink Travel is establishing a sound reputation for the personal services it extends to all of its clients, of various corporations, large or small. Its objective has always been to provide an efficient, flexible, cost-effective and reliable travel service. This is a value that Wavelink Travel seeks to uphold for its clients.



For more information,
visit our website at
<http://www.wavelinktravel.com.sg/>,
alternatively, do call us at 6299 0800.



LIGHTHOUSE BISTRO REVAMPS WITH NEW FUSION DISHES



Sous Chef, Mr Lee Ming Yong

After months of planning and a makeover, Lighthouse Bistro is back! Greeting patrons with a cheery orange and white theme, the restaurant has also added a few new dishes to excite your taste palate!

Affectionately known as 'Ah Yong', Mr Lee Ming Yong is the Sous Chef of Lighthouse Bistro. Mr Lee played a big part in the addition of Western fusion Asian cuisine into the revamped Lighthouse Bistro menu. He speaks to SeaVoices on revamping Lighthouse Bistro's menu.

Why did you want to be a chef?

I've always had an interest in cooking since young. With a humble family background, I didn't have a chance to pursue good academic qualifications. Thus, cooking became my iron rice bowl, a stable source of income. I get great satisfaction out of seeing guests enjoying the meal that I've prepared.

Which dish at Lighthouse Bistro gives you the confidence as a chef?

I particularly enjoy preparing pasta, especially aglio olio. It is a classy and simple dish, but it requires meticulous efforts in preparation.

Tell us some of the challenges you faced while revamping the Lighthouse Bistro menu.

As you might know, Lighthouse Bistro now offers Western Fusion Asian cuisine. This is something that I'm passionate about because I enjoy Asian food and love to explore new concepts with Western cuisine. In coming up with the Western Fusion Asian Cuisine for the menu, it was an experience that I enjoyed thoroughly. A great amount of patience was needed, coupled with much preparation and research. When creating new dishes, a chef needs to have that dash of creativity and lots of guts to fuse two cuisines into one. There were times when the spices I tried to fuse did not match. This has only made my job more interesting and challenging!

Speaking of ingredients, what do you think is one important ingredient?

I believe garlic is an essential ingredient that every dish must have. It's a simple

spice but it brings out a burst of flavour in a dish.

The Mee Goreng and Wagyu Beef are just two of the many new dishes at Lighthouse Bistro.

Tell us more and bring us through the process.

Mee Goreng has always been the signature dish of Lighthouse Bistro. In this new Western fusion Asian Mee Goreng, I enhanced the flavour while retaining the familiar blend of the Mee Goreng aroma.

Will Lighthouse Bistro be introducing more fusion dishes?

Yes, there will definitely be more fusion dishes coming up as I am constantly inspired to reinvent and create new fusions.





(L-R) Lighthouse Operating Manager Michael Chan, Lighthouse Cook Shawn Lim, Lighthouse Sous Chef Lee Ming Yong and Lighthouse Assistant Operating Manager Michael Teo

Feel at home with the all-new Lighthouse Bistro!

The orange and white colour theme gives the bistro a clean, sleek and cheery disposition. As such, it suggests a more relaxed, fun and festive atmosphere inside Lighthouse Bistro. Indeed, this will be the place to enjoy the new dishes in the company of friends and family.

Lighthouse Bistro's New Fiery dish is the Thundering Chicken Wings
(pictured below)

For the gung-ho chilli lovers, this is the dish for you! Choose from two levels of spiciness made from home-made spices and different types of chilli. Challenge your tolerance for spiciness!



OLD



NEW



Lighthouse Bistro Lunch Daily Specials



Free flow greens, soup and a cup of coffee/
tea when you order our daily specials!



Monday
Juicy Rib Eye steak with
mashed potatoes



Tuesday
Salmon Pasta with sauteed
mushroom



Wednesday
Lamb Shank with mashed
potatoes and vegetables



Thursday
Catch of the Sea seasoned
with herbs



Friday
Wagyu Beef Burger
with chips

Lighthouse Bistro Set Dinner

Enjoy 50% OFF* any 2nd set dinner as an SMOU member and 30% OFF for walk-in patrons! This promotion is valid only in August and September 2012

**Flash your SMOU membership card to enjoy these privileges!*