



N★S★T★C



Newsletter



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Netherlands Ministry of Transport supports PIT program

Marine Engineering building granted

Early this year the Dutch partners in the KVNR-PIT project drafted a proposal to request subsidy from the Netherlands Ministry of Transport in order to support the maritime program in the Palompon Institute of Technology (PIT).

Since the start of the co-operation in 2000 between the Netherlands and PIT the Netherlands Ministry of Transport has followed the development of the program closely. Different staff members of the Ministry have visited PIT over the years. The Ministry underlines the importance of the cooperation both for the development of the local economy in the Palompon region and the supply of young qualified officers to the Dutch fleet.

Since school year 2008-2009, the total number of students in the maritime programs is on target. From the start of the cooperation this was one of the important milestones; to train around 120 deck and 120 engine students per year.

Part of the upgrading program was to have smaller sections to improve the education and to enrich the curriculum with additional subjects or extra hours to existing subjects. On top of that various Dutch shipping companies have donated equipment and machineries to make the training and education more hands on. Consequence of all these steps is a shortage in classrooms.

The new Marine Engineering building will have two stories. The ground floor is intended for laboratories and a new faculty room. The upper floor for four theory classrooms and a Maritime Computer Laboratory, (MCL). *Turn to page 2 ME building...*

Dutch shipowners pledge more aid to PIT

THE Netherlands and an association of Dutch shipowners have pledged to pour in more funds to support a state-owned maritime school in Leyte and expand its facilities to take in more students.



Dutch maritime officials, during their visit to Manila recently, said there were talks for a funding of at least 750,000 euro (about P51.75 million) to put up a new facility in Palompon Institute of Technology (PIT) in Leyte island.

Of the amount, some 300,000 euros will be released by the Dutch government through the Netherlands' Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management and the 450,000 euros will be from Rotterdam-based Royal Association of Netherlands Shipowners.

Robert Hyser, acting director for Maritime Transport of The Netherlands, recently said in an interview that the ship owners' group had asked for the government's counterpart funding just a few months ago for the expansion of the engineering course of the state school.

"The money will be given directly to the school because it lacks classrooms and workshop (area) for engineering students. We intend to expand the school, PIT, in the next few years," Hyser added.

He clarified though that his government still has to respond on the funding proposal of the Dutch ship owners group.

Such plan of expanding PIT, which is becoming one of the top maritime schools in the Visayas after topping the recent licensure examination, is just a short term plan of the Dutch to develop

the manpower skills of Filipino seafarers, according to R.J. de Bruijn, senior policy advisor.

Estimates show that there will be a shortage of around 200 to 300 crew members aboard a Dutch vessel every year starting last year through 2015, when the new ship orders start operating.

Dutch fleet owners have been pouring resources to PIT since 1994 after the group decided to "adopt" the state school, instead of building their own educational facility or funding scholars

and placing them in different schools. Since then PIT has become "Netherlands Maritime Academy in the Philippines," wherein local authorities will sanction courses on condition that the standards would also have to be accepted by Dutch fleet owners.

In 2004, some 1 million euros were funneled to the school for a "Netherlands Shipping Training Centre," a facility that was inaugurated last April.

Within three to four years, the facility is expected to accept around 500 course participants.

All graduated "Dutch" cadets, each with their Certificate of Competency are offered a contract with Dutch companies for at least three years.

There are about 22,000 officers and crew onboard Dutch-owned and controlled vessels worldwide.

Of the total crewmembers, only 4,500 are Dutch and the rest are from other European and Asian nations but primarily from the Philippines.

PIT was originally established as Palompon School of Arts and Trades in 1964, and the school only started using its current name in 1972.

Even with the grant, the school still gets subsidy from the national government; it received P60.32 million in 2006.

In that year, the school's total enrollees hit 2,500 and PIT finished 15 research projects and conducted 23 trainings, according to PIT report.



SEAWAY SHIPPING DIGEST • JUNE 2008 11

Article in "Seaway" a nation wide distributed shipping magazine

NSTC AFF COURSES ON THE MOVE

Since April this year NSTC is the only Maritime Training Centre in Region 8 offering Advanced Fire Fighting Courses (AFF). This has resulted in a high number of courses conducted since that time.

In NSTC one of the major elements of the AFF course is command and control. All course participants are required to act as

commander during practical exercises. This makes the NSTC AFF course one of the toughest according to the candidates because they will undergo the same number of practical exercises as there are candidates.

The AFF course is offered in a 4 day program starting on Fridays.

Remarks of trainees about AFF in NSTC:

- ⇒ Instructors have good knowledge of the course
- ⇒ Salute to punctuality
- ⇒ Add more trainings
- ⇒ AFF at NSTC is the real thing

ME building ... From page 1

With the new theory classrooms the new ME building will support both programs. The pressure on the classrooms in the PIT main building will be reduced. This will also create the possibility to convert one room to a second chart room for the deck students. With a second MCL, students can make more use of the computer based training facilities.

The laboratories in the new building are intended for marine automation and electro technology. The existing Marine Engineering workshop will remain for propulsion and auxiliary machinery laboratories.

*Present situation:
Instruction by Eng Valenzona in the open air*



ADOPT A CLASSROOM OR COMPUTER

Part of the construction of the new Marine Engineering building is to supply the furniture and teaching aids for the classrooms and laboratories.

In order to strengthen the ties between the Dutch shipping companies and PIT we have come up with the idea to ask companies if they want to adopt a classroom. This adoption program is not limited to the Marine Engineering building only.

The adoption plan is based on the following principle:

For each room, a list with a standard package of furniture and equipment will be drawn up. The packages will cost a certain amount and companies can adopt a room by funding this standard package. In return, the company may decorate the inside of the classroom and give a name to the room, which will be placed on the door.

Another option for shipping companies is to adopt one or more computers. For the new Marine Computer Laboratory (MCL) we need 25 desk top computers and a multimedia. For companies opting for this a board will be placed in the MCL showing the company logos of those which adopted computers.

For the laboratories of both

the deck and engine programs we are still looking for used equipment and machinery. Through the KVNR, companies will receive a list with the items which we think will have an added value to the training programs. We welcome suggestions.

For questions or suggestions regarding the "adopt a classroom" program and donations of maritime equipment please feel free to contact through e mail Jan Willem Verhoeff at verhoeff@stc-r.nl or Tjitso Westra at westra@kvnr.nl



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NSTC DORMITORY UPDATES

The first 59 PIT students have stayed in the dormitory during the 1st semester of school year 2008-2009 since the grand opening in April.

After a period of adjustment we can now proudly say that the NSTC dormitory is up and running. Next to good board and lodging the dormitory creates also a good atmosphere for study and comradeship.

UPGRADING COURSES AT NSTC

Before somebody can avail the Certificate of Competence as Watchkeeping Deck or Engine Officer he or she has to undergo the following trainings:

- ⇒ Advanced Fire Fighting (AFF)
- ⇒ Medical Emergency First Aid (MEFA)
- ⇒ Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boat (PSCRB)

In order to facilitate returning students from PIT under the PIT-KVNR program, NSTC can offer these courses as a package.

Please contact Jan Willem Verhoeff at verhoeff@stc-r.nl, Tjitso Westra at westra@kvnr.nl or the NSTC office at info@nstc.ph for questions or possibilities.