

MAKING SOUTH AFRICA A MARITIME 'PLACE OF PREFERENCE'



SOUTH AFRICA HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BE A MARITIME 'PLACE OF PREFERENCE', PARTICULARLY FOR CREWING AND SERVICES SUCH AS SHIP MANAGEMENT.

– Daniel Ngubane, MBC's General Manager - Offshore Operations

If South Africa is to grow its maritime industry and unleash the industry's vast potential for job creation and investment, our aim – both as an industry and as a country – should be on making South Africa a maritime place of preference says MBC's General Manager - Offshore Operations, Daniel Ngubane ...

"The considerable effort made by those, such as the SA Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA), in raising the profile of the maritime industry among government and policy makers is beginning to pay off if recent policy changes, such as the Tax Amendment Bill, are anything to go by.

The emphasis, however, for stimulating investment in the industry seems to have been placed on asset investment in the cargo and passenger

sectors and the question needs to be asked: Will the changes introduced by the Department of Transport and Treasury be enough to stimulate investment?

MBC believes not – because of the capital required for asset investments. Rather, we believe, the future of the South African maritime industry lies in two sectors that are already well established, those of crewing and training and the off-shore oil and gas industry.

These two sectors have closely related activities which we feel should be encouraged by way of state incentives. Crewing and services such as ship management, in particular, hold tremendous potential for South Africa.

The industry of international crewing has changed over time. Initially Western Europe dominated, shifting to the East and South East Asia, and the focus now seems to be shifting to Africa.

South Africa has the training facilities and maritime skills to grow the crewing and training sector around Africa, particularly in the off-shore sector. A number of companies, including MCS, are actively involved in training, crewing and the placement of seafarers and our track record has been one of job creation and skills development at its best.

The off-shore services sector, from West, Southern and East Africa, also offers tremendous potential because of the range of services required for the exploration and production of oil and gas.

South Africa already has a well-established off-shore industry in PetroSA and a number of local companies, including Marine Bulk Carriers (MBC), already serve this industry.

But while MBC and our business partners have taken our support for the South African maritime industry a step further by ordering two new Anchor Handling Supply Tug (AHST) vessels worth R600 million, current legislation does not allow us to benefit from the new tax regulations.

This matter needs to be urgently corrected if further investment is to be secured.

Changes also need to be made to, for example, the Ships Registration Act and the DTI's NIPP (National Industrial Participation Programme) if NIPP is to achieve its aim.

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We have found NIPP, despite its good intentions to support development in South Africa, to be a major stumbling block especially where sophisticated, capital-intensive equipment is required for providing services to PetroSA and where this equipment is not available in South Africa and has to be sourced abroad. The rigid and impractical application of the NIPP policy also seems to be working directly against Government objectives of B-BBEE, job creation, skills development and equal opportunity.

So what should the priorities be for maximising the potential of the local maritime industry?

Firstly, we need to make South Africa a maritime 'place of preference' by attracting investment from local and foreign maritime companies with incentives similar to that of Singapore.

Secondly, we need to focus on job creation and skills development and structure tax and other incentives to not only make South African vessel ownership attractive, but also the technical and commercial operations to make South Africa a preferred location for the establishment of ship management companies.

Let's make it happen, together."
– Daniel Ngubane

MCS'S SUCCESSES DURING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 2014 ARE PROOF THAT WE ARE SUCCESSFULLY MEETING OUR GOAL OF TRAINING AND GROWING THE POOL OF SEAFARERS FROM SOUTH AFRICA AND THE AFRICAN CONTINENT.



From the Helm

Deanna Collins, MCS Director



"Looking back on the first six months of 2014, it is gratifying to see the progress Marine Crew Services (MCS) continues to make on the training front and our ongoing success in meeting our goal of training and growing the pool of seafarers from South Africa and the African continent.

Since January we have absorbed a further intake of 21 maritime students from Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) under their Corporate Social Investment programme. This group is currently studying at the Maritime Studies Faculty at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT) and we are delighted to be managing them on behalf of the TNPA.

It is also gratifying to advise that an additional 10 deck and engineering Cadets graduated to the rank of Officer of the Watch, bringing the total number of MCS graduated junior Officers since last year to close on 50 (48, to be exact). Congratulations to all our graduates.

Our goal is to place these Junior Officers with foreign shipowners worldwide.

MCS has also recruited and placed 35 new South African entrant deck, engineering and catering trainee Ratings. These include females from across all sectors of our society and who are excited to be given the opportunity to make their mark in which has, to date, been largely a male-dominated environment.

ANGOLAN MILESTONE

Yet another highlight and milestone was the graduation in April this year of six Angolan deck and marine engineering Officers who obtained their Higher National Diploma (Class 1 Master or Chief Engineer academic phase).

Their graduation was an outstanding achievement considering these Officers could speak very little English when they arrived in Cape Town for training under MCS in 2005/6.

MCS therefore extends its warmest and most sincere congratulations to **Gabriel André Soleira, Edson Assunção Lima Baptista, Pedro Paulo Zage Viembe, Rodolfo Sebastião Martins, Angelo Manuel Pedro and Luis Francisco Da Silva Bumba.**

SHARED PRIDE

I am very proud of what these Officers have accomplished and appreciated having had the opportunity to share their success with their company representatives, Mr **Paulo Ribeiro** (General Manager of Oilfield Production Services, Luanda) and OPS Student Specialist Supervisor, Mr **Paulo Ngongo** who travelled to Cape Town to attend the graduation ceremony held at the CPUT's Bellville Campus on 11 April.

MCS has been providing training services to Angolan companies since 2005 and it was our honour to host our Angolan guests and to jointly celebrate the achievement of their Officers at a special dinner held at the Granger Bay Hotel School facility on 10 April.

We also congratulate Sonasurf marine engineering Cadet, **Freitas Nongava**, on obtaining his Marine Engineering Officer of the Watch Certificate of Competency.

To all our Clients, Officers, Cadets, Ratings and the MCS Team, I thank you for your continued efforts in supporting our company objective of 'job creation through quality training programmes'. May we go from strength to strength and have many more successes in the months ahead."

– Deanna Collins





WELCOME ABOARD



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1 Merle Jacobs of MCS with Angolan graduates Edson Assunção Lima Baptista and Rodolfo Sebastião Martins.

2 Angelo Manuel Pedro and his mother Antonica Capuma Manuel with Pedro Paulo Zage Viembe.

3 Deanna Collins (fourth from right) and the MCS team host their Angolan guests, Paulo Ribeiro and Paulo Ngongo as well as graduates and members of their family, accommodation manager and mentor, Capt Jim Abbott and housekeeper Ms Elizabeth Laffey in celebrating the milestone achievements of the Angolan students at a dinner held at the Granger Bay Hotel School facility.

4 Angolan graduates with Messers Paulo Ribeiro and Paulo Ngongo (centre). From left to right (back row): André Soleira, Edson Assunção Lima Baptista, Domingos Sequesseque, Pedro Paulo Zage Viembe, Rodolfo Sebastião Martins. Front row: Angelo Manuel Pedro, Luis Francisco Da Silva Bumba.

5 Angolan graduates and families, from left to right: National Higher Diploma Marine Engineering graduate Luis Francisco Da Silva Bumba and his mother, Mrs Luisa Maria Francisco Da Silva; Mrs Antonica Capuma Manuel (Angelo Manuel Pedro's mother); Angelo Manuel Pedro, Pedro Paulo Zage Viembe and Gabriel André Soleira, all National Higher Diploma Maritime Studies graduates at the recent Bellville graduation ceremony.



MANDY MCGUIRE – MCS'S NEW COO

We extend a warm welcome aboard to Mandy McGuire who took up the reigns as MCS's new Chief Operating Officer on Monday, 2 June 2014 and who brings her professional expertise, her many years of generalist HR experience and her marine specific experience to MCS.

Reporting to MCS Director, Deanna Collins, Mandy will be responsible for managing and overseeing the day-to-day operation of the MCS crewing and training functions.

Mandy has 15 years' service in the marine industry having served at Smit Amandla Marine as HR and Crewing Manager and then as HR Manager at the Subtech Group for the past five and a half years.

She also holds a Master's degree in Industrial Psychology and is a registered Industrial Psychologist with the Health Professionals Council of South Africa.



ALTHEA BANDA-HANSMANN – NEW MCS BOARD MEMBER

In April, we welcomed Althea Banda-Hansmann to the Board of Marine Crew Services.

Althea is a highly skilled HR practitioner with extensive experience in human resource management, transformation and B-BBEE, diversity, leadership and skills development, talent management, coaching facilitation and project and programme management.

She holds several academic qualifications and professional accreditations and is the founding director of Transforming Moments Consulting, a company that provides private, government and educational organisations with Human Resource development, B-BBEE and 'Time to Think' consulting services.

Her former work experience includes HR related roles at the SA Petroleum Industry Association, BP Africa, Safmarine and Standard Bank.

We look forward to the strategic and business partnership development she will bring to our executive leadership. Welcome Althea!



A VISIT TO ARK PHIL



Although our shore-based MCS and MBC staffers deal with vessels on a daily basis, we don't often get the opportunity to go on board the vessels we supply with crewing and training services.

So, we grabbed the chance when the opportunity came to visit the Ark Phil, an Anchor Handling Supply Tug (AHST) undergoing inspection in Cape Town!

A big thank you from the MCS team to Lomar Shipping Ltd's Senior Technical Manager, Vasilis Mavrogeorgis and the Officers and crew of the Ark Phil for allowing us on board the vessel on 3 April, 2014.



1 On the bridge of the Ark Phil, from left to right: MCS's Yvette de Klerk, Jasper Schoonraad and Precious Ngcobo with Lizl Coetzer from the RKO Office, Cape Town and the Master, Dmytro Otnelchenko.

2 The Ark Phil in the port of Cape Town.

A TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY



Yvette de Klerk has joined the RKO crewing team in Singapore on a six-month secondment for exposure to international crewing best practice and for further training and development in this field. We wish her every success.

LOOKING AHEAD TO IMLA 2015

The Durban University of Technology (DUT) will host the 23rd International Maritime Lecturers Association (IMLA) Conference in 2015. It is the first time that South Africa will host the IMLA event, according to MCS Director, **Deanna Collins**, a member of the DUT Marine Advisory Board.

IMLA is a no-border, round table forum which invites lecturers, teachers and other interested parties from all over the world who are involved in maritime education and training to present their achievements, share experiences and exchange ideas.

"The aim," says Deanna, "is to promote contact and cooperation between maritime lecturers of all disciplines and to develop a body of professional expertise."

According to the 2015 IMLA sponsorship prospectus, the conference will cover, amongst others, topics such as how to apply modern technologies to learning, teaching and assessment

strategies and monitoring quality promotion and assurance in maritime education. The conference will also look at how to make sea-going careers attractive to Generation Y and how to prepare students for a diverse working environment.

The event will take place at the Elangeni-Maharani Hotel, North Beach, Durban from 29 June to 3 July 2015.

Visit www.dut.ac.za/imla23 for more details.



WE ENCOURAGE ALL MEMBERS OF THE MARITIME INDUSTRY TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS AUSPICIOUS EVENT, WHICH IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW JUST HOW MUCH SOUTH AFRICA HAS ACHIEVED ON THE MARITIME TRAINING AND EDUCATION FRONT.

- Deanna Collins, MCS Director



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