



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Labor and Employment
NATIONAL MARITIME POLYTECHNIC



WEB UPLOAD
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More seafarers to benefit as NMP Tacloban opens NAC

TACLOBAN CITY - Starting July 11, 2011, seafarers who have taken their Basic Safety Training (BST), Advance Training in Firefighting (ATFF), Medical Emergency First Aid (MEFA) and Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats other than Fast Rescue Boat (PSCRB) at the National Maritime Polytechnic (NMP) Tacloban Training Complex automatically undergo the NAC assessment on site according to NMP Executive Director Josephus B. Jimenez.

Jimenez announced that this new service to the Filipino seafarers is among NMP's priorities to become a one-stop-center for seafarers training and assessment being the only government maritime training center in the country.

He further informed that qualified seafarers are endorsed to the Maritime Training Council (MTC) for the issuance of appropriate certificate of proficiency (COP) with very minimal amount representing processing fee to be remitted to OWWA. Walk-in clients are also accepted provided they meet the requirements as set forth by the Maritime Training Council, he added.

MTC is the country's regulatory body which monitors Philippines' compliance to the International Convention on the Standards of Training Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW) and its Code. It issues COP to seafarers through its NAC. Due to the influx of seafarers seeking NAC assessment, MTC decentralized such function to its accredited maritime training centers and maritime schools.

Now that NMP is recognized by MTC to conduct assessment, more seafarers from the Visayas and Mindanao regions are expected to avail of the service. To accommodate them, NMP opens NAC assessment on Saturdays for walk-in clients, Jimenez said.

Director Jimenez is likewise optimistic that the Philippines' reservoir of competent and highly employable seafarers would be strengthened in consonance with the DOLE's 22-point labor and employment agenda. (MARIA SANDRA M. GALLARDO)

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