

10/25/16 - Press Release STAR Center (Dania Beach, Florida)

Star Center, a division of the American Maritime Officers Safety and Education Plan announced the graduation and licensing of the first TECH (The Engineering Candidate Hawsepipeline) class graduates. The USCG approved TECH Program satisfies all STCW 2010 requirements to prepare candidates to sit for the USCG 3rd Assistant Engineer unlimited horsepower (motor) examinations. The new engineers are now enroute to AMO contracted company vessels as licensed engineering officers and OICEW's.



The first class of apprentice engineers to complete TECH Program received completion certificates at the AMO monthly membership meeting in August. Joseph Parsons III, Brandon Mackie, John Peterson and Cameron Siele have since successfully completed the USCG exams to earn unlimited licenses as third assistant engineers. With them here are STAR Center Director of Training Phil Shullo and Head of the STAR Center Engineering Department Matt Grose.

The Engineering Candidate Hawsepipeline Program is a comprehensive training program created to support American Maritime Officers (AMO), the largest union of U.S. licensed merchant marine officers future engineering needs. The program provides selected high school graduates who want to pursue careers as seagoing marine engineers with the opportunity to proceed on a marine engineering career path and help fill the industry wide developing shortage of marine engineers. The program targets high performing high school graduates with an interest in the merchant marine and mentors them during intense training onboard ship and ashore.

The TECH Program includes all required USCG and STCW 2010 training and assessment requirements. Alternating between shore side and at sea phases, the program as revised includes over 10 months of shore side classroom education and 360 days of at sea training as an apprentice engineer. "We are all very proud of the first TECH class and their effort and dedication to the Program" said Phil Shullo, STAR Center's Director of Training. "Through a refined selection process and a focused learning environment, both at sea and at STAR Center, we are able to produce excellent shipboard engineers with the knowledge, skills and professionalism to advance up the ranks at sea to industry leading Chief Engineers. There are currently three follow on classes in the pipeline and the fifth class will convene at STAR Center in January. Information on the program and how to apply are available online at www.star-center.com/techprogram/techprogram.html.

STAR Center is a not-for-profit maritime training facility that is the top choice of inland and oceangoing professional mariners throughout the world. Opening in 1983 in Toledo, Ohio, STAR Center expanded to Dania in 1986. STAR Center's South Florida location offers a wide range of training.