

# THE MAREX<sup>TM</sup>

## BULLETIN

marexbulletin.com

₹25/-  
Indiawide

Vol XII. No. 43/12, Mumbai  
MONDAY, 28 MAY 2012

6734 9292 info@marexbulletin.com  
Join us on Facebook



# Changing laws and technology require new training responses

**A.S. Moloobhoy join up with Furuno to roll out Type Specific ECDIS training**

Seema Singh

[Mumbai, 15 May]

Changing regulatory norms have set both seafarers and training institutes to work. Looking at the need for increased training requirements, A.S. Moloobhoy & Sons have now ventured into the field of education. The company, after 107 successful years in the marine industry, is providing Type Specific ECDIS training. This simulator based training course is a part of the joint venture with Furuno Inc, a Japan-based electronic equipment company. Moloobhoys have started the course, the first batch of which commenced from May 8, in line with the projected phasing out of paper charts from ships.

Those attending this course need to have prior knowledge of the generic IMO 1.27 ECDIS course. The type specific ECDIS course will be conducted over a span of 2 days. "The course will teach them to use Furuno ECDIS in order to navigate safely," informed Mr R. Sitaraman, General Manager- Training and Strategy at A.S. Moloobhoy & Sons. The course targets navigators and port state inspectors, and was



started considering the demand for Type Specific ECDIS training in the market. "Actual equipment has been installed in the classroom at each table to make sure that the candidates get the best out of the training provided," added Mr Sitaraman.

In order to impart maximum learning over the two days, Moloobhoy's have kept the maximum classroom capacity of the course down to only six people. "Since each desk is equipped with an ECDIS simulator, students are able to essentially familiarise themselves with both, the hardware and the software. This real time experience prepares them for navigating the vessel on an economically effective and fuel efficient route,

which you wouldn't necessarily acquire with a CBT course. As part of the curriculum, our instructors teach students how to use the Furuno ECDIS confidently even during emergencies," said Ghazalah Moloobhoy, Partner, A.S. Moloobhoy & Sons.

The course is highly recommended by IMO and IMC. "Paper charts are being wiped out from ships and are being replaced by ECDIS. This makes it compulsory for every seafarer to be a certified ECDIS user," informed Nafeesa Moloobhoy, Managing Partner, A.S. Moloobhoy. "It is our first step in education. The feedback attained from students who have been awarded their certificates in our first batch made me feel

## SNEAK PEEK

- ❑ **A.S. Moloobhoy & Sons is a one-stop solution for all marine requirements. The 107-year-old company, with eight branches all over India, has now ventured into the field of education.**
- ❑ **Moloobhoy's- in a Joint Venture with Furuno Inc- will train navigators from all over the world for efficiently using Type**

**Specific ECDIS.**

- ❑ **For training the students, the trainers themselves have undergone a two-week ECDIS training programme in Copenhagen, Denmark and have been issued the appropriate certification as is required by FURUNO to conduct the respective classes.**



## Why ECDIS training?

**ECDIS is new and non-familiarity with it can give rise to navigation risks. Training shows navigators to use the device in the best possible way. Ships need to have two ECDIS systems; training also teaches trainees to operate the back-up device efficiently in case of any failure.**

proud to have explored this particular niche area of marine education," she added.

The response from companies has been encouraging. "We are getting enquiries for the course not only from shipping companies based in India, but from all over the world. I genuinely feel that India is the future of our Industry," said Ghazalah.

ECDIS is superior to paper charts and more economical in the long term. We at A.S. Moloobhoy want to prepare our navigation students well before they are put in a situation where they have to use ECDIS onboard. This two-day course will provide a ship owner's crew member within information and a certificate that will last a life-time," said Tehzeeb Moloobhoy, Partner, A.S. Moloobhoy.

- ❑ The classroom especially designed for ECDIS training is equipped with simulators for every student. Manuals and CDs are provided as a "take away kit" to the students.
- ❑ The course is structure controlled and correspondingly approved by Class NK. It is subject to audits by Furuno and- once in a year- by Class NK.
- ❑ The training provided will help

Seafarers are currently trained for Furuno ECDIS model FEA 2107 and FEA 2807. At the end of the two-day programme, the students have to take a pre-designed test. "It is important for them to clear the exam. If they pass the exam, they are given a certificate from our institute that is valid for six weeks. The final certificate comes from FURUNO Denmark," informed Mr Sitaraman.

The institute has kept room for question-answers and follow-up interaction with the students after their certification. "We have kept one day in the week for any student to come back and brush up their knowledge. We believe in empowering our students with knowledge and a clear understanding on the course material," added Mr Sitaraman.

- ❑ navigators use Furuno ECDIS installed on their ships efficiently.
- ❑ Currently being certified for ECDIS model FEA 2107/ FEA 2807, the candidates will have to undergo different training once other models of Furuno ECDIS are launched.
- ❑ Moloobhoy's are also planning to venture into Generic ECDIS training.

The joint venture between Moloobhoy's and Furuno will prove beneficial to Indian seafarers. "We initially had only one training institute in Copenhagen. We wanted to have a worldwide presence and so tied up with A.S. Moloobhoy in India. The idea is to get training for ECDIS locally available," said Kaspar de Linde, Instructor & Assessor, INS Training Center, Furuno.

India is a major player in the marine industry. "We are currently looking at the response at this centre in Mumbai. We will plan more training institutes in India based on the response in Mumbai. Currently, Moloobhoy's are planning one more institute in Kochi," he added.

The process of phasing out of paper charts is well underway; seafarers who were earlier introduced to generic ECDIS training are now moving ahead and being trained for Type Specific ECDIS. "The institute has set up the training format in a way which allows us to have hands on practice on the equipment. Though some brushing up of knowledge on a regular basis is essential, the equipment is very user friendly, making learning enjoyable," said Captain Sanjay Nighojkar during the second day of his Type Specific ECDIS training.

Marex Media