



**MILITARY  
SEALIFT  
COMMAND**

# Seafarer's **ADVISOR**

**ISSUE 1 2010**

MSC is an equal opportunity employer and a drug-free workplace.

## Letter from the Director

Greetings!

Happy New Year from Military Sealift Command. We're looking forward to a busy winter and spring.

In this edition of the *Advisor*, we're highlighting a civil service mariner (CIVMAR) success story from our culinary department. In the upcoming months, positions will be opening in this department as well as others. Please reference the Now Hiring section of this newsletter or visit [www.sealiftcommand.com/nowHiring.html](http://www.sealiftcommand.com/nowHiring.html) for more information.

Also, please note, our current recruitment schedule on the right of this page; in the upcoming months we'll be spreading the word and discussing the benefits of a career as a CIVMAR at a number of venues. We invite you to stop by one of the events in your area and speak to one of our recruiters directly.

CIVMARs have the opportunity to advance their careers by logging solid seetime on a variety of platforms. As seetime is an important facet to advancement in many mariner rates, pursuing a career as a CIVMAR gives the mariner a fast track to upward mobility. We also have some of the most advanced ships on the ocean today: like our expanding fleet of T-AKEs featuring diesel electric power plants. Our diverse platforms and missions, all of which span the globe, give CIVMARs an edge over their commercial counterparts when advancing their credentials.

Finally, please stay tuned to [www.sealiftcommand.com](http://www.sealiftcommand.com) for an updated version of our website to be released soon. We're excited to provide this resource to everyone wanting

## Job Fair Schedule

1/20/10	MSC Mini Job Fair	Mobile, AL
1/21/10	MSC Mini Job Fair	Kenosha, WI
1/21/10	Recruit Military Veteran Opportunity Expo	Norfolk, VA
1/26/10	JobZone Job Fair - Patuxent River NAS, FFSC	Lexington Park, MD
1/27/10	MSC Mini Job Fair	Pensacola, FL
1/28/10	MSC Mini Job Fair	Long Beach, CA
2/3/10	MSC Mini Job Fair	Cape Coral, FL
2/10/10	MSC Mini Job Fair	Staten Island, NY
2/10/10	Recruit Military Veteran Opportunity Expo	New Orleans, LA
2/11/10	Recruit Military Veteran Opportunity Expo	Jacksonville, FL
2/18/10	Recruit Military Veteran Opportunity Expo	Tampa, FL
2/18/10	Corporate Gray Job Fair	Virginia Beach, VA
2/18/10	Recruit Military Veteran Opportunity Expo	San Francisco, CA
2/25/10	Recruit Military Veteran Opportunity Expo	Houston, TX
2/25/10	MSC Mini Job Fair	Savannah, GA
3/3/10	MSC Mini Job Fair	Gulfport, MS
3/4/10	MSC Mini Job Fair	Memphis, TN
3/10/10	MSC Mini Job Fair	New Orleans, LA
3/11/10	Recruit Military Veteran Opportunity Expo	San Diego, CA
3/24/10	MSC Mini Job Fair	Pensacola, FL
3/24/10	Latinos for Hire	Dallas, TX
3/31/10	MSC Mini Job Fair	Jacksonville, FL

See [www.sealiftcommand.com](http://www.sealiftcommand.com) for more information on upcoming events.

to learn more about Military Sealift Command and take command of their career.

As always, we value your relationship as a partner and thank you for your continued support.

Phyllis B. Spano  
Director,  
Human Resources and Manpower  
MSFSC

## MSC Positions

**MSC is actively recruiting for the following positions:**

- Deck Engineer Machinist**
- Unlicensed Junior Engineer**
- Pumpman**
- Second Cook**
- Cook Baker**
- Assistant Cook**
- Medical Services Officer**

## Success Story: Danilo Puniesto, Steward Cook

For some, 25 years in the Navy and always “haze gray and underway” would have been enough. But after retiring and spending six years as a Culinary Arts Instructor at Olympic College, in Bremerton, Washington, Danilo Puniesto could no longer ignore the lure of the sea.

“I joined MSC in January, 2006,” he said. “Because I missed being at sea, and the pay (as a civil service mariner) is so good.”

Puniesto learned about Military Sealift Command during his Navy career, when he was attached to a command that dealt with MSC. Today, he said, he’s proud of his role in supporting the U.S. Navy combatant fleet.

It’s a plus, too, that most of his friends work for MSC.

Puniesto’s first assignment, on board *USNS Mercy* in 2006, set the tone for what he hopes will be a career that will carry him into a civil service retirement.

“I started as a night cook baker,” he said. (This position is roughly equivalent, shoreside, to a pastry chef). Currently Puniesto serves as a

Steward Cook and has his sights set on a possible promotion to Chief Steward in the future.

The chance to advance – driven by the pride he feels in his work – is another big benefit for Puniesto in that he has earned two promotions and he’s working on a third. Encouraged by a chief steward, Puniesto is applying for a chief steward

position. “I’m putting my package together for that promotion now,” he said.

About his recent assignments, Puniesto notes, “My average day is mostly hectic. I have to make sure everything is ready every day before I serve breakfast. I order provisions, make sure the amount of food is within budget and, of course, make sure everything is clean and ready for the next meal.”



***“MSC ships really offer a good life. On many ships, crew members have their own staterooms, and passageways are wide. Everything is very comfortable.”***

The best part of the job comes as his fellow crew members enjoy his work. “I like hearing from the crew that the food being served is very good,” Puniesto said.

While Puniesto does admit it can be hard being away, missing his wife and kids’ birthdays and sometimes holidays, he believes the sacrifice has been worth it. “My family is used to it,” he said. “This is

the nature of the work, and was when I was in the Navy.”

“Ships are not like they were before,” Puniesto explained. “MSC ships really offer a good life. On many ships, crew members have their own staterooms, and passageways are wide. Everything is very comfortable.”

“We really have all the conveniences of home,” he said. “I brought most modern technology with me – I have my own TV, a DVD player. There’s a fridge in my room, and I’ve got my own bathroom. There’s even a gym on board.”

“All my time in the Navy,” he said, “I didn’t see anything like this.”

Puniesto was born in the Philippines, so the chance to go “home” makes the islands one of his favorite ports of call. He’s also drawn to Hong Kong for the shopping, and Singapore for the nightlife and interesting food.

When he’s at sea and has a free moment, Puniesto enjoys playing cards and watching movies. And, when he can, calling home. Puniesto and his wife, Hilda, have three children – and three grandchildren.

“Being at sea gives you the encouragement to do good things,” he said. “It’s so peaceful and quiet. I’ve had such good experiences here. It taught me to be a more mature person, and to love and care for my family more.”

**See other  
MSC Success Stories at  
[www.sealiftcommand.com](http://www.sealiftcommand.com)**

## MSC ship wins SECNAV Environmental Quality Award

Earlier this year, the Secretary of the Navy announced that Military Sealift Command fast combat support ship *USNS Bridge* was the winner of the fiscal year 2008 SECNAV Environmental Quality Award in the small ship category. *Bridge* is one of MSC’s four fast combat support ships that replenish Navy ships at sea with fuel, ammunition, food and other cargo.

The 754 ft ship, which has a crew of 170 civil service mariners and currently operates out of San Diego, was cited for the crew’s work in preventing pollution, ensuring readiness in responding to envi-

ronmental issues, conserving resources and complying with environmental regulations. *Bridge* advanced to the Secretary of the Navy competition after it was named as one of the Chief of Naval Operations quality small ship award winners in February.

While the ship voluntarily met standards stricter than required by the Navy, each mariner received special training in environmental management, used environmentally friendly chemicals and conducted monthly spill drills. In two years, *Bridge*, under the command of civil service master Capt. Jeffrey Siepert,

transferred 182.7 million gallons of fuel without a significant mishap.

“Chief Mate Giudice is the leader of this effort,” said Siepert. “He came up with all of the ideas. He developed all of our environmental program elements, executed them and monitors them for our continued success.”

Military Sealift Command’s commitment to an exceptional work ethic is something that attracts mariners to pursue an MSC career. At every level of MSC, civilian mariners have a pride and expectation to be safe and excellent in everything they do.