



**MILITARY
SEALIFT
COMMAND**

Seafarer's

ADVISOR

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

Letter from the Director

Dear Partners and Friends,

At Military Sealift Command, it is our aim to hire the best and brightest mariners from all over the country. We couldn't do this without the help of our outreach partners; it's a relationship we do not take for granted. We're looking forward to continuing to work together during this upcoming spring and summer season.

If you haven't noticed yet, 2010 brought a new look to www.sealiftcommand.com. It not only looks better, but it's more user-friendly and functional as well. We're doing what we can to make the MSC employment experience as pleasant as possible. For example, prospects now have the option to receive instant updates on job fairs and new MSC position openings via RSS feeds. They will find every resource they need all online – our Job Fair Schedule, MMC and TWIC information, a Training School Search, resume and KSA templates, and more.

Throughout the last two years, Military Sealift Command has actively recruited mariners regardless of the country's economic situation. Job security is one of our proudest benefits as an employer. Currently we have positions open in these shipboard departments: deck, engine, supply, and medical.

In this issue of the Advisor, we're profiling a Success Story from our engine department - Mr. Samuel Battles. He has a family history with MSC and his tenure with us really highlights our many advancement opportunities.

Wishing the best for you and your organization. Thank you again for your support and encouragement.

Phyllis B. Spano
Director,
Human Resources and Manpower
MSFSC

Job Fair Schedule

05/05/10	Military Sealift Command Career Fair	Pensacola, FL
05/06/10	Military Sealift Command Career Fair	Morehead City, NC
05/06/10	12th Annual Maritime Career Day	Seattle, WA
05/13/10	Recruit Military Veteran Opportunity Expo	Norfolk, VA
05/19/10	Military Sealift Command Career Fair	San Francisco, CA
05/19/10	Military Sealift Command Career Fair	New Orleans, LA
05/27/10	Recruit Military Veteran Opportunity Expo	Houston, TX
05/27/10	Recruit Military Veteran Opportunity Expo	New York, NY
06/02/10	Recruit Military Veteran Opportunity Expo	Gulfport, MS
06/04/10	Military Sealift Command Career Fair	Cincinnati, OH
06/10/10	Recruit Military Veteran Opportunity Expo	Miami, FL
06/10/10	Military Sealift Command Career Fair	Quincy, MA
06/10/10	Recruit Military Veteran Opportunity Expo	Tacoma, WA
06/16/10	Military Sealift Command Career Fair	St. Marys, GA
06/17/10	Recruit Military Veteran Opportunity Expo	Dallas, TX
06/17/10	Military Sealift Command Career Fair	Anchorage, AK
06/23/10	Military Sealift Command Career Fair	Jacksonville, FL
06/24/10	Military Sealift Command Career Fair	Staten Island, NY
06/24/10	Recruit Military Veteran Opportunity Expo	San Diego, CA

See www.sealiftcommand.com for more information on upcoming events.

MSC Positions

MSC is actively recruiting for the following positions:

**Ordinary Seaman
Advancement Program
Electronics Technician
Unlicensed Junior Engineer**

**Pumpman
Deck Engineer Machinist
Cook Baker
Medical Services Officer**

Success Story: Samuel Battles, Chief Engineer

Sam Battles grew up listening to his father, Chief Engineer James Battles, tell stories of a life at sea.

These were stories told during fishing trips, or while working on projects together. These were stories about fascinating people, interesting places and full of details. The common thread throughout the stories was the pride James Battles felt in his life's accomplishments. Pride in supporting a critical mission. Pride in a job well done.

"My father was always proud to be a part of Military Sealift Command (MSC), and to be performing the MSC mission," Sam said. "This perspective was the main reason that I felt a career with MSC would be a challenging endeavor."

Clearly, Sam has been up to the challenge. Now 19 years as a civil service mariner, he is serving as chief engineer aboard *USNS Tippecanoe*. He started as a wiper on *USNS John Lenthall*.

Sam attributes his success to a strong "work ethic" and says this is the single most important quality a prospective MSC employee can have. It's about doing your best, no matter what you're doing – from mopping the decks, to standing watch, to maintaining machinery.

Sam's work ethic is best summed up with his own example of his favorite assignment, in 2000. "I was promoted to first engineer, but there was no one to replace me in the cargo engineer position," he said. "We deployed, and I covered both positions. So I never walked down the gangway until deployment was 100% complete."

"That assignment was the most challenging – but also my favorite," Sam said.

This attitude would likely have made Sam's father proud. James, who passed away in December 2008, was also a chief engineer with MSC. Sam tells with pride that he has served on many of the same ships where his father once worked.



"It's a great feeling to work for months and even years to ensure a ship can meet the mission requirements – and to see the ship transform into a highly capable, 100% operational platform."

In a moving tribute he wrote after his dad's passing, Sam wrote, "The most amazing thing about Jim Battles' legacy was the influence he had on people's lives. Since his passing I have received dozens of messages from people with whom he worked during his many careers."

Sam said his dad was always proud of being part of MSC – every crew, every mission.

When ashore, Sam spends as much time as he can with his 15-year-old son. Together they hunt, fish, swim, scuba dive – and arm wrestle. While at home, he also takes care of real estate properties and attends to the family's bail bond business.

Aboard ship, Sam's main responsibilities involve ensuring the well-being of the ship's machinery. This means making sure the personnel and equipment are always in the right place at the right time. It's a job that can be all-consuming, particularly during underway replenishment evolutions. But it's also one that can bring a feeling of great satisfaction. "It's a great feeling to work for months and even years to ensure a ship can meet the mission requirements – and to see the ship transform into a highly capable, 100% operational platform," Sam said.

Sometimes, the ship's mission brings unexpected rewards. Sam spoke of a mission that took the ship on a refueling trip north to Virginia. The ship became covered in snow and the crew made a quick snowman on a pallet and placed the pallet in a ship-board freezer box. They carried the snowman to Puerto Rico – where he was the guest of honor at an afternoon beach party.

"Watching the local kids that had never seen snow before, much less a snowman, was very memorable for me," Sam said. "It was wonderful that we were able to bring that kind of happiness to the local children."

**See other
MSC Success Stories at
www.sealiftcommand.com**

USNS Comfort Provides Aid After Haiti Earthquake

In the middle of the night on January 20th, a MH60S "Knighthawk" helicopter landed on the deck of *USNS Comfort* (T-AH 20). Staffed with MSC civil service mariners (CIVMARs) and Navy medical professionals, *Comfort* began to receive her first patients injured as a result of the Haitian earthquake that took place a week earlier.

USNS Comfort was on-scene, off the coast of the Haitian capital Port-Au-Prince, in record time due to the efforts of MSC and our CIVMARs.

It is estimated that three million Haitians were affected by this earthquake. Fortunately, the disaster relief and humanitarian operations capabilities of *Comfort* are equipped to handle a large influx of patients. The *Comfort* is a trauma unit equipped with 1,000 patient beds.

When a mariner signs up for federal government service as a CIVMAR, he or she quickly realizes there is nothing common about the job. In what may seem adventurous to most, missions such as providing emergency humanitarian relief in Haiti is just a day in the life of a CIVMAR at MSC.