



For Immediate Release
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Maine Marine Trade Association to Host a Series of ABYC Certifications in 2009 at the Marine Systems Training Center

April 13, 2009, Annapolis, MD: In response to the need for regional training, the American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) and the Maine Marine Trades Association (MMTA) have joined forces to offer a series of ABYC Certification courses at the Marine Systems Training Center (MSTC) in Thomaston, Maine. By sponsoring the ABYC Certifications, the MMTA can offer these courses often at reduced pricing for State marine professionals, and with substantial savings in travel expenses.

The MMTA recently sponsored the ABYC Diesel Engine & Support Systems Certification at the end of March, and the following courses have been scheduled thus far for the rest of the year. These courses will also be held at the MSTC in Thomaston, ME:

- September 8 – 11, 2009, Marine Corrosion Certification
- November 3 – 5, 2009, Gasoline Engine & Support Systems Certification
- December 1 – 4, 2009, Marine Systems Certification

“The MSTC has been offering courses in a wide range of marine systems for over a year now and our classes are clearly filling a void by offering much needed trainings in a very accessible location,” commented Minda McVetty, Director of the Marine Systems Training Center. “We are able to provide courses that enhance the knowledge and skills of not only Maine workers but marine trades employees in other New England states and Canada as well. We are delighted to have this association with ABYC which enables us to offer their highly sought after courses and certifications at a location in closer proximity to so many yards and builders in Maine and other states. We look forward to bringing more ABYC courses here and to furthering this great collaboration.”

Mike New, ABYC’s Director of Education said, “We held our first ABYC Electrical Certification class at the MSTC in Thomaston in January of this year, and it was very successful. We had 29 attendees and 26 passed the certification exam. Our recent Diesel Certification class also had good numbers in it. We look forward to working with the MMTA to bring our certifications to their training facility as it helps to reduce travel and training costs for professionals in our industry.”

ABYC offers technical training courses that progress from basic to advanced, and includes eight workforce

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certification courses for marine technicians and professionals. All individuals who attend an ABYC Certification sit for a 200-question certification exam on the last day. To schedule an On-Site course, or to receive more information on customized training programs, both state-side and around the globe, contact Michael New at (410) 990-4460, ext. 31 or via email at mnew@abycinc.org. For a listing of regularly scheduled ABYC Certification courses and other training programs, please visit www.abycinc.org.

ABYC has been developing, writing and updating the safety standards for boat building and repair in the United States for 55 years. ABYC is actively involved with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) as well as education and certification programs for marine technicians. These standards are available on CD, online (*Web-STIR* and the *ABYC Standards Powered by Rulefinder.net*) and in printed form. Membership and general information can be requested by visiting the ABYC Web site at www.abycinc.org.