

## **Annex A**

### **FACT SHEET**

## **TRADE-SPECIFIC WORKPLACE SAFETY & HEALTH (WSH) FOR MARINE INDUSTRY WORKFORCE SKILLS QUALIFICATIONS (WSQ) FRAMEWORK**

### **OVERVIEW**

The Trade-Specific Workplace Safety & Health (WSH) for Marine Industry Workplace Skills Qualifications (WSQ) framework is jointly developed by Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA) and Workplace Safety and Health Council (WSHC). This is done in collaboration with the Association of Singapore Marine Industries (ASMI) and the major shipyards in Singapore.

2 In line with the national goal to raise the capabilities of employees to work safely, this framework looks specifically at the training of marine trade workers. The marine sector's healthy growth has led to an increase in manpower for shipyards. Hence, the framework helps to ensure that both new and existing workers are better trained on safety issues so that accidents can be prevented.

3 There are 13 modules in the WSH for Marine Industry WSQ framework. These are:

- i. Practise Workplace Safety & Health for Forklift Operation
- ii. Practise Workplace Safety & Health for Marine Metal Scaffolding (Operation)
- iii. Practise Workplace Safety & Health for Signalling & Rigging
- iv. Practise Workplace Safety & Health for Self Propelled Platform Operation
- v. Practise Workplace Safety & Health for Supervising Marine Metal Scaffolding (Supervisory)
- vi. Practise Workplace Safety & Health for Welding
- vii. Practise Workplace Safety & Health for Pipe Fitting
- viii. Practise Workplace Safety & Health for Painting & Blasting
- ix. Practise Workplace Safety & Health for Dockside Tower Crane Operation
- x. Practise Workplace Safety & Health for Steel Fitting
- xi. Practise Workplace Safety & Health for Tank Cleaning
- xii. Practise Workplace Safety & Health for Electrical Installation
- xiii. Practise Workplace Safety & Health for Marine Mechanical Installation

### **BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES AND EMPLOYERS**

4 For employees, the WSH for Marine WSQ framework provides a practical and effective way for them to be trained and certified. It equips them with

essential workplace safety knowledge for specific trades, which will enhance their performance on the job, and safeguard their well-being at the workplace.

5 For employers, the competency-based focus of the framework helps to skill-up their workers quickly and effectively. Having a safety-conscious workforce will help to prevent the incidence of workplace accidents, and reduces losses in revenue for companies that may arise due to work stoppages caused by accidents.

## **WHAT ARE THE ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE COVERED?**

6 The framework is targeted mainly at the training of tradesmen in the marine industry. The essential knowledge that will be covered in all modules offered to tradesmen are:

- i. Contribute to WSH programs;
- ii. Respond to workplace emergencies;
- iii. Prepare for safe work activities;
- iv. Identify and follow WSH procedures when performing the trade activities; and
- v. Re-instate work area and equipment to ensure safe working environment.

7 For supervisors, the essential competencies that will be taught are:

- i. Conduct risk assessment for marine metal scaffolding;
- ii. Execute workplace emergency procedures;
- iii. Supervise workers on marine metal scaffolding activities to meet WSH legislative requirements; and
- iv. Execute and monitor continual improvements in WSH practices

8 The knowledge on safety is meant to supplement and complement the trade-specific technical skills training that the workers would have undergone.

## **PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION – PROGRESS UPDATE**

9 The development for the WSH for Marine Industry WSQ framework started in June 2007. Since then, 6 out of 13 trades have been developed and implemented with 700 workers certified competent under the WSH for Marine Industry WSQ system. Another 3 more trades are ready for implementation in Dec 2008. WDA and WSH Council plan to complete the development for all the 13 trades by June 2009. Collectively, the shipyards plan to have about 10,000 workers trained and certified over the next 3 years.

10 The five major shipyards, namely Sembawang Shipyard, Jurong Shipyard, Keppel Shipyard, Keppel FELS as well as Singapore Technologies Marine, have been actively rolling out training courses since May 2008. Other WSQ Approved Training Organisations (ATO), like Tat Hong Training Services and NTUC LearningHub, have also come on board to roll out the training courses starting in November 2008. In view of the need to improve the safety knowledge of both the new and existing workers in the marine industry, WDA has been reaching out to potential training providers and companies to deliver the courses and/or sponsor their staff to upgrade of their skills.