Global IMET and AEMTC conduct Maritime Teacher Training Programme in India

Anglo Eastern Maritime Training Centre and GlobalIMET jointly organized a six-day Teacher Training work shop at AEM Centre in Mumbai. Mr. Dennis Sale, senior education advisor, at the Department of Education and Staff Development, Singapore Polytechnic, conducted the Work shop. Mr. Sale is a clinical psychologist with a bachelor’s degree in science, a post graduate certificate in education, a master’s degree in education and is by far one of the best teachers with knowledge in imparting training techniques. The Work shop was well-attended and highly appreciated by stalwarts like Capt. Philip Mathews (Dean of Management Studies, MTI), Capt. Kersi Deboo (Director & Principal, AEMTC), Mr. Francis Akarra (GM & Vice Principal, AEMTC) along with all the trainers from AEMTC.

Capt. Kersi Deboo, welcomed the trainer and addressed the need to enhance the officers’ skills in Training Course design, implementation and assessment. He mentioned in his opening address that the need of the hour was to teach the marine faculty a little bit of human psychology and brain functions besides the engine and cargo they dealt in the past.

Mr. Francis Akarra, general manager and vice principal, introduced Mr. Dennis Sale and highlighted his commendable work in the field of training and education. In his short speech, he mentioned that there are not many professionally qualified teachers in the maritime field and it was a great challenge for the maritime Institute to provide such training for their faculty. He also mentioned the back bone of any training or teaching is the strength of the Institute.

The course was indeed very comprehensive covering all aspects of Teacher Training - right from designing a training course, outlining general and specific learning objectives, keeping in mind the fundamental principles of learning, utilizing appropriate instructional methods and utilizing effective assessment tools that captured the key learning outcomes.

The topic ‘Course Design’ equipped participants with the means of designing a comprehensive course document - carefully outlining general and specific learning objectives, content coverage and organization of content. The topic ‘Instructional Methods’ introduced participants to the core principles of learning, psychological aspects of learning and the memory process, thus providing trainers clear guidelines for structuring and delivering their courses.
Reasons, methods, criteria and validity for assessment systems suddenly came to life and had clear meaning. Mr. Dennis extensively discussed the concept of ‘E-Learning’ – Designing e-learning content and analyzing the implications of the online environment on human learning. The best way for me to summarize the training is to conclude that the course had good “SHAPE”. That is to say, using one of Dennis Sale’s mnemonic, it was filled with stories, humour, activity, presentation style and examples, all well woven into a seamless masterpiece. All the participants were actively involved during the entire workshop, especially during the practical sessions.

The week long session was summed up by Capt. Teselin Almeda with a brief vote of thanks.

Incidentally, Globalmet started in 1989 as an initiative to form an Asia Pacific regional association which grew out of the meeting of Heads of Maritime Academies in Asia Pacific and earlier functioned under the name AMETIAP. The name “Global Maritime Education and Training Association”, with the working name "GlobalMET" and a new logo, adopted in 2006, reflects the organisation’s growing global role with more members based outside the Asia Pacific region. GlobalMet is now an international organization, working to promote, develop and support, in the spirit of co-operation, the common interest of its members in all matters concerning the development and quality of maritime education and training institutions.

In the last Globalmet meet held at Mumbai, the need of a formal training course for maritime teachers was identified and the Global Met took the first initiative for conducting a formal training program for the maritime trainers attached to Globalmet members.