

Minutes

North Coast Marine Manufacturing Alliance Meeting

March 13, 2013

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

NWTC

Type of meeting:

Strategic Planning

Note taker:

Ann Franz

Attendees:

Josh Delforge, Steve Baue, Sam Gosz, Pete Bilski, Phillip Henslee, Tony Martens, Jeff Guenther, Grayson Gerndt, John Adey, Bill Forquer, Amy Anderson, Brian Lancour, Joe Draves and Ann Franz

Agenda topics

ABYC

John Adey

John Adey, president of ABYC gave an overview of the organization. It started in 1954 and has 64 different standards. Marine surveyors use ABYC. Canada will also be implementing ABYC standards. There are seven certifications that ABYC has and individuals that obtain 3 of the 7 earn their master marine technician. The training program for sitting for the certification test is 4 days long and must be delivered by an ABYC certified instructor. ABYC also has developed a fast track program that is less expensive and time consuming. There was discussion on having ABYC offer the certification with one of the college's instructors. Tony shared that this would help technicians that want to get certified, but cannot attend school for an entire week. If a local college offered the training, it could be delivered over 4 Saturdays. John is interested in exploring opportunities to deliver programming in this region.

John discussed the Marine League, which comprises 7 colleges that are able to embed ABYC curriculum into their courses. Students are then able to sit for the ABYC test. The colleges are located in Hawaii, Florida, Maine, New England and Washington. John suggested contacting Ann Avery about the Marine League.

Real Weld Systems demonstration

Bill Forquer

The RealWeld trainer was designed by the Edison Welding Institute (EWI) in order to enhance training welders in a more cost efficient manner that has real metrics. The training device gives students the opportunity to practice motions with the arc off as well as on. It also analyzes the student's technique. Another benefit is for companies to clone the technique of a master welder for its employees to practice and emulate.

His company is part of a NSRP grant to develop a national maritime welder training program. The primary objective: develop stackable certificate program that provides growth opportunities and accurately addresses welder training issues.

Specific maritime requirements for the program:

- Teaching: recommend school infrastructure requirements and new training methods
- Technology: various alloys using various processes
- Ergonomic: confined spaces, scaffolding

Goal is 18 month reduction in training time for someone to be a journeyman welder. Bill gave a demonstration of the device.

Delta County/NCMAA meeting and vote on Associate member

All

All agreed that last month's meeting was beneficial in learning about companies the members did not know existed. Members were especially interested in Acuren, Creative Composites and Great Lakes Sound and Vibration.

Creative Composites submitted their membership form and was unanimously approved.

Tall Ships

All

Ron Tupper from Momentum Marketing has offered to provide the videotaping for the Tall Ships Festival. Ann asked members to send her the contact names for each company's marketing department.

Updates

All

WEDC and the US Department of Commerce have requested meeting with the Alliance to discuss exporting opportunities, especially Canada's \$35 billion National Shipbuilding Procurement program. Ann shared that WEDC contacted the Alliance to participate in a conversation with the National Marine Manufacturing Association (NMMA).

AeroGo, an air caster moving system had contacted the organization. Members viewed the YouTube video for the company. There was not any interest for the company to present. The Marinette County Associate of Business & Industry requested a letter of support from the Alliance for a grant project to fund the “Wisconsin Maritime Center of Excellence.” The center would house Navy personnel that are in Marinette during the construction of the LCS and an incubator for start-up businesses. All members supported the project.

Set next meeting date & plan agenda

All

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, April 10 at 1 p.m. at NWTC in Business Assistance Center’s classroom.**

Agenda:

- Member and Subcommittee updates
- Department of Commerce – U.S. Commercial Services representative Damian Felton
- WEDC – Mark Rhoda-Reis
- Tall Ships Update
- Set Next Meeting Date and Plan Agenda