

## Mooring Equipment Training Facility Inauguration

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Safety is the first priority of all the officers and crew onboard. Oceangoing vessels' mooring procedures involves many complexities and careful considerations that should be made for safe berthing and unberthing from ports. To ensure that our future seafarers will be trained to perform such task accordingly, a Mooring Equipment Training Facility was fabricated at the Magsaysay Institute of Shipping.

The facility was inaugurated last February 9 with collective efforts from Philippine-Japan Manning Consultative Council (PJMCC), All Japan Seamen's Union (AJSU), Associated Marine Officers and Seamen's Union of the Philippines (AMOSUP), Philippine Seafarers Union (PSU), and International Mariners Management Association of Japan (IMMAJ). It will be managed by the MOL Training Center (Phils.) Inc. to further develop and maximize the skills of potential seafarers. The program started with the ceremonial ribbon-cutting and unveiling of the marker. It was followed by the blessing of the Mooring Equipment wherein the guests of honor surrounded the facility. As part of the tradition, coins were also showered around the equipment.

Selected cadets and instructors demonstrate the Mooring Equipment Operations. Some are stationed at the equipment and some are stationed on the ground. All of them are wearing safety gears to show how the actual mooring operation exactly looks like. All the guests were fascinated with the demonstration and showed appreciation on how the new training facility will help in preparing future seafarers on the actual mooring operations.

Inspirational messages were also shared by the keynote guests. Mr. Marlon Rono, President of Magsaysay Maritime Corporation, opened the program with a message envisioning the future of the maritime industry. Mr. Yoji Fujisawa of JSU also gave a remarkable speech imparting his insights on the projects that will take the seafarers to the next level. Mr. Eduardo Manese shared optimistic ideas on the newly inaugurated facility, and relates its relevance to the industry. The mooring facility will hone potential seafarers and will definitely ensure safety at sea.