

SEA18 to Sound Alarm on Maritime Skills

The Maritime Industry Australia Ltd (MIAL) SEA18 conference being held in Canberra today, is focussing on Skilling Our Maritime Nation, and the impending maritime skills shortage being faced by the nation.

Exposing the issue in stark light, the results of the MIAL Seafaring Skills Census, launched today, has shown that there are only 30 deck cadets currently being trained.

Teresa Lloyd, Chief Executive Officer at MIAL said “this is clearly not enough. It takes approximately 10 years to train to the level required to develop these skills, we have an aging workforce and the demand from outside direct seafaring roles is significant”

Ms Lloyd said, “the capacity to provide the necessary platforms that have in the past developed these seafaring skills is significantly constrained as a result of the decline of the Australian fleet.”

“Australia’s capacity to participate in global trade, meet Australian community safety and environmental protection standards and protect our interests is reliant upon having professional shipping expertise available to fill strategic roles” she said.

MIAL received over 145 responses to the Seafaring Skills Census, which is the first of a series designed to identify where we are at and what we will need in terms of skills for our maritime nation.

Ms Lloyd adds “a complex economy with a broad economic base needs a range of maritime skills on land and sea, particularly in the areas of marine pilotage, safety regulators and harbour masters. These skills are essential to our nation, take years to acquire and are highly sought after globally. Our data shows that we have a crisis on our hands as training for these skills has all but ended.”

Over 120 delegates will today discuss these issue and map out solutions to be progressed by the industry and by the Government.

Further information:

[MIAL Seafaring Skills Census](#)

[Future Proofing the Nation’s Strategic Skills](#)

End



Teresa Lloyd
MIAL, CEO

About Maritime Industry Australia Ltd

Maritime Industry Australia Ltd (MIAL) is the country’s largest representative of maritime businesses, primarily those operating maritime assets or facilities from Australia. MIAL is uniquely positioned to provide dedicated maritime expertise and advice, and is driven to promote a sustainable, vibrant and competitive Australian maritime industry and to expand the Australian maritime cluster.