

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?:

Seattle Maritime Academy is looking for a Port Engineer:

- At the core, the candidate must be well versed in vessel and equipment operations and vessel construction from stem to stern and trunk to keelson (*the system*).
- Communication skills are also extremely important. Not only verbal, but written. It is imperative that the candidate can effectively communicate and work well with others. There is great importance in being able to develop a document that accurately reflects a condition or required course of action. As such, the candidates technical writing ability is important.
- Organizational skills are also important. Sometimes sticky-notes just don't cut it!
- The ability to create a budget and work within that budget are also important. *I can fix anything if you give me enough money!* The challenge is to be constantly aware of internal and external forces impacting the budget and have a plan for contingencies.
- In addition to these fundamentals, the candidate should have a working knowledge of the rules and regulations associated with the vessel in their charge. That is not to say that they have to know all the regulations (local, state and federal)... No one does...but, have the knowledge of how to access the regulations and as important, have a clear understanding that any task performed on a vessel is subject to rules, regulations or specific guidance (no jury rigging as a permanent fix). This is something that I always stress to my students. *If it's onboard a ship, there is a regulation about it!*

BOTTOM LINE NEEDS:

The following are instrumental in cost effective ship management:

- System knowledge,
- effective communication,
- and organization skills

GRATITUDE:

Thanks goes to Joe Schmitt, Part Time Engineering Instructor, for his guidance on what we should be looking for in the right Port Engineer for SMA.