



MEDIA RELEASE

Jobs are Alaska's Future



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
Commissioner Click Bishop

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AVTEC Awarded \$2 Million Grant for Maritime Safety Training Facility

JUNEAU – The Alaska Vocational Technical Center has been awarded a \$2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Administration, to design and construct the AVTEC Maritime Safety Training Facility. This new facility will be part of the Alaska Maritime Training Center.

AVTEC’s Alaska Maritime Training Center currently provides courses in various aspects of vessel operations and safety for all types of ships that lead to U.S. Coast Guard-approved certifications, training and licenses. This expansion will provide for a new maritime safety campus on seven acres leased from the City of Seward on Resurrection Bay. The campus would provide comprehensive facilities located together and adjacent to a city-owned harbor and dock. The campus would include a ship fire training simulator, classroom facilities, a safety training lab, lifeboat and lifeboat launching equipment.

The Maritime Center was formed to train Alaskans in the maritime profession and provide the transportation industry with a highly skilled workforce trained in the unique Alaskan environment.

“We’re excited about the new training opportunities that the 4,800-square foot AVTEC Maritime Safety Training Facility will open up for all Alaskans,” said Labor Commissioner Click Bishop.

AVTEC Director Fred Esposito said AVTEC’s maritime program has been successful in training Alaskans for Alaska jobs.

“We’re turning out success stories – graduates prepared for rewarding, well-paying careers aboard the big tankers, fish processors and Alaska Marine Highway System vessels,” Esposito said.

Complete program and coursework information on AVTEC training programs are available at avtec.labor.state.ak.us. Click on “Training Programs/Courses” or call (800) 478-5389.

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