

C I S M a R T

CANADIAN NETWORK
FOR INNOVATIVE SHIPBUILDING,
MARINE RESEARCH AND TRAINING | RÉSEAU CANADIEN POUR L'INNOVATION
DANS LA CONSTRUCTION NAVALE,
LA RECHERCHE MARINE ET LA FORMATION

Education and Training Workshop

Sheraton Ottawa Hotel, July 11, 2017

Introduction

The purpose of this write-up is to introduce the Ottawa Workshop which will be the third such workshop. Two workshops were held last year in Vancouver, BC and St. John's, NL to gauge the interest of and to seek input from the Canadian marine community in setting up the Canadian Network for Innovative Shipbuilding, Marine Research and Training (CISMaRT).

The vision for this national network grew from the identification of technological and training challenges facing the Canadian shipbuilding and marine industry, related to the renewal program for Coast Guard and Navy ships and the rapid changes in the broader Canadian marine industry. The motivation for CISMaRT stems from the belief that the relatively small marine sector in Canada, compared to its global competition, would be stronger for the future with the development of a strategic alliance to improve activities including research and education in Canada.



The primary purpose of CISMaRT is to encourage and facilitate collaborative research and development in marine technology and help improve the state of marine technology education and training in Canada. From the outset, it was considered important that all stakeholders be represented and hence the CISMaRT membership includes representatives from industry, government and academia.

Education and training is a key element of CISMaRT and this is the focus of the Ottawa Workshop. Participants will discuss the current state of education and training in Canada's marine sector and will consider what innovative solutions can be applied for its enhancement.

Progress Made So Far

The main outcome of last year's workshops was to establish CISMaRT. The participants also identified key technological areas that CISMaRT should concentrate on. Further input was provided regarding how CISMaRT should be structured, administered and organized.



To put CISMaRT on a sound and sustainable footing, several key tasks were identified. These include securing short- and long-term funding, expanding the

membership from the current 36, and seeking opportunities to collaborate with national and international players in related industries such as those associated with the marine sciences.

Following the St. John's workshop, an Interim Board was set up and now comprises eight members drawn from industry, government and academia. The recent focus was on developing a Strategic Plan for CISMART and fully implementing the network. Some financial support has been secured to support these tasks.

The Next Steps

Apart from the Ottawa workshop, there are a number of planned activities. Among the high priority items are finalizing the Strategic Plan and seeking the core funding to sustain the network. Among other activities, the aim is to start a few pilot R&D projects. This will help build momentum and promote CISMART and its activities.

The Ottawa Workshop

The issue of education and training was briefly considered in the earlier workshops and the recommendations could be considered a starting point for the Ottawa workshop. Among the recommendations considered important in the context of educating the next generation of naval architects and marine engineers were: greater use of work-terms, curriculum improvements, mid-career training, better preparation for high school students/greater awareness, and practical shipyard experience. Some of these and other topics will be addressed at the Workshop.



The desired outcome from the Ottawa workshop is a clear understanding of what the key challenges are for the education and training of highly qualified workforce related to the Canadian marine industry. Other desirable outcomes from the Workshop are strategies for dealing with the challenges, innovative solutions for providing education and training, and an assessment how these initiatives should be prioritized.