Marine Engineer

Main tasks and duties

Marine Engineers are responsible for the operation and maintenance of the ship's propulsion systems and auxiliary engines. In addition to coordinating the work of engine room staff, they ensure that the ship's different systems—electrical generators, freshwater supply, steam circuits, sewage treatment and compressed circuits—are in good working order, using the latest automation and monitoring technologies. They must be able to quickly detect reasons for system failures and react effectively.

Academic training or professional development

Candidates may complete a college program with practical training in marine engineering at a recognized marine institute leading to initial officer certification. They may also accumulate Engine Room Rating seatime, complete ongoing training, and pass the compulsory Transport Canada exams for each officer certification level.

Marine engineers can rise in the ranks as follows: 4th class Marine Engineer, 3rd class, 2nd class, 1st class (Chief Marine Engineer). They must complete each training phase, accumulate the required seatime and obtain certification for the different ranks before becoming Chief Marine Engineer.

Educational institutions and training centres in Québec

The Institut maritime du Québec in Rimouski offers a college study program in marine mechanical engineering technology.

Career opportunities

- Marine Engineer
- Marine Expert
- Management position in a marine company
- Marine Inspector
- Stationary Engineer

Essential qualities and interests

- Interest in working at sea
- Aptitude for sciences
- At ease working with technological equipment
- Good manual dexterity
- Teamwork capabilities
- Initiative, leadership and sense of responsibility

Average annual income: $50 000 to $120 000

Salary increases significantly as Marine Officers rise in rank. They generally work 6 to 9 months/year.

For more information

www.csmoim.qc.ca
www.lesaint-laurent.com
www.neas.ca

www.tc.gc.ca
www.imq.qc.ca
www.besoindunmecano.com

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