Shipboard Fire Training at MITAGS-West

TRAINING FACILITY

MITAGS owns the only training facility in the Northwest specifically constructed to teach shipboard firefighting. The M/V Fire Dragon is a 120-foot ship mock-up crafted from actual ship fittings and fixtures. It includes a number of living, working and engineering compartments connected by narrow passageways, watertight doors and steep interior staircases and ladders. Students fight multiple engine room, galley, and living space fires, and conduct search and rescue operations for missing personnel.

While the Fire Dragon presents a very realistic training experience, it is also engineered with multiple overlapping features for student safety. Fires can be secured at any time by instructors or students, or if a sensor detects an unsafe condition.

PROGRAMS OFFERED

Basic Firefighting
This U.S. Coast Guard-approved two-day course is designed to train seafarers in the fundamental principles of shipboard firefighting and fire response tactics. The curriculum emphasizes risk recognition, maintaining a state of readiness, initial response and use of firefighting equipment. It includes both classroom and practical exercises, using full protective gear while fighting actual fires.

Advanced Firefighting
The follow-on to Basic Firefighting, this four-day program is intended for officers and senior crew who are responsible for their ships’ firefighting response. Advanced Firefighting teaches strategies, tactics, command and control of firefighting operations. It also has a large area of focus on training, drills and assessments.

Firefighting Team Trainers
This program is offered to mariners who serve on the same vessel and would respond as a group to a shipboard fire. During this full-day program, team members play the roles they are assigned per their vessel’s muster list, using their own response equipment. The purpose of this training experience is to allow crewmembers to conduct fire drills with a level of realism not possible aboard ship. In the challenging and dynamic environment of an actual ship on fire, instructors assess the team’s abilities to follow their procedures, communicate effectively, implement strategies and use equipment properly.

Public Safety Exercises
A number of public agencies have utilized the MITAGS fire training facility to support in-service training to familiarize their personnel with shipboard risks and hazards, and the special tactics and considerations to be employed when responding to marine fires in their areas of responsibility.