

ADVISOR

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Letter from the Director

Greetings:

MSC is currently transforming in order to become the best 21st century organization we can. We will provide the operational logistics support that's needed to win the global war on terrorism and assist with humanitarian missions, wherever and whenever we're called upon. As part of that transformation the Afloat Personnel Management Center has been restructured into the Military Sealift Fleet Support Command (MSFSC) and renamed the Human Resources and Manpower Department. MSFSC is the single command unit responsible for combat fleet logistics worldwide and has worldwide responsibility to man, train, equip and maintain MSC government-owned, government-operated ships.

In this issue, we highlight the Surface Rescue Swimmer (SRS) Program, established to provide incentives to certain employees who serve in one of the collateral positions we have aboard a number of our ships. This issue also features a Success Story on Mr. Kevin Giffin who is a Surface Rescue Swimmer.

MSC is currently looking for individuals who have the skills and endorsements to fill vacant positions and who also

Job Fair Schedule

1/12/06	Careerbuilder.com Career Fair	New York, NY
1/24/06	Careerbuilder.com Career Fair	San Diego, CA
1/24/06	Las Vegas Review-Journal Career Fair	Las Vegas, NV
1/25/06	Jobing.com Career Expo	Long Beach, CA
1/25/06	Miami Herald JobQuest	Miami, FL
1/26/06	Jobbernaut Career Fair	Seattle, WA
1/31/06	Jobing.com Career Expo	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
2/2/06	Careerbuilder.com Career Fair	Houston, TX
2/6/06	Careerbuilder.com Career Fair	Tampa, FL
2/22/06	Careerbuilder.com Career Fair	San Francisco, CA
2/21/06	Job Zone	N. Stafford, VA
3/3/06	Careerbuilder.com Career Fair	Portland, OR
3/10/06	Careerbuilder.com Career Fair	Boston, MA
3/17/06	Job Zone	King George, VA
3/31/06	Careerbuilder.com Career Fair	Seattle, WA

See www.sealiftcommand.com for more information on upcoming events.

have the skills and abilities to become a member of the SRS program. Please inform prospective applicants of this great incentive opportunity as a MSC employee.

We continue to thank you for your support.

Regards,



Director, Human Resources and Manpower Department



Mr. Kevin Giffin, MSC Surface Rescue Swimmer, (center) poses with U.S. Marine Corps Force RECON and U.S. Navy SEALs after an exercise in the Persian Gulf just before Operation Desert Fox.

See his Success Story on the reverse side.

To learn about MSC positions currently open please visit our Web site at: www.sealiftcommand.com

A Closer Look: Surface Rescue Swimmer Program

Military Sealift Command's (MSC) mission is to supply the Navy with food, fuel, equipment and ammunition. Vertical Underway Replenishments are performed using helicopters to load and unload cargo while underway. To ensure the ability and readiness of rescue operations at sea, MSC has developed a Surface Rescue Swimming Program that consists of a cadre of Civilian Mariners (CIVMARS) who are trained and skilled to assist in the event of an emergency.

DEFINITION: Surface Rescue Swimmer (SRS) (noun):

A CIVMAR who, in addition to his/her onboard duties, evaluates the condition of survivors in the water and provides immediate medical (due to injury), physical (due to loss of mobility) and emotional (due to trauma of events) assistance to ensure their successful recovery.

All participants must pass a variety of physical endurance tests, be medically fit, and CPR Certified. Training to become a SRS is sponsored by MSC. As an incentive for those interested in participating in the SRS Program, the following awards can be earned by a CIVMAR who successfully completes and maintains his/her SRS Certification:

- Compensation for hours earned while actively engaged in SRS activities in addition to his/her normal rate of pay.
- A graduation incentive cash award.
- Opportunities for on-the-spot monetary awards and time off awards based on aspects of service.
- A cash incentive for each year as a SRS.

If any prospects are interested in applying for the SRS Program, they should contact the CIVMAR Support Center at **1-877-JOBS-MSC**.

FACTS: As of December 2005, there are Surface Rescue Swimmers on 14 MSC ships. • There are 2 SRS per ship. • Prior to 1995, all SRS personnel on MSC ships were part of a military detachment. • From the helicopter accidents that took place between 1992 and 2002, 176 lives were saved by the quick actions of those involved in the SRS Program.

Success Story: Mr. Kevin Giffin, Chief Mate, SRS

Mr. Kevin Giffin is a dedicated member of the CIVMAR workforce. As Chief Mate, Mr. Giffin currently works in a shore-side billet with the Afloat Personnel Management Center (AMPC) as a Marine Placement Officer.

His past with MSC, however, has been mostly offshore, and his sea time and experience has allowed him to move steadily through the ranks from Able Seaman, the position in which he joined MSC as in 1993. Mr. Giffin joined MSC after both serving in the U.S. Coast Guard and working in the commercial maritime industry on Tugs and Supply Vessels. Mr. Giffin has sailed 14 tours on different MSC ships, which includes each type of ship that MSC operates. He says the best part about his job is "working as part of a team and seeing the successful results." However, Mr. Giffin's job doesn't end at Chief Mate. Mr. Giffin is a part of the MSC Surface Rescue Swimmer team. He graduated from the U.S. Navy Surface Rescue Swimmer School in San Diego in 1997.

Mr. Giffin's brother nearly drowned at an early age. The experience motivated Mr. Giffin to become an avid swimmer. After high school he joined the U.S. Coast Guard and was extensively involved in Search and Rescue. He then worked for a salvage company continuing his involvement with search and rescue, and is now a Master SCUBA diver. Being a Master SCUBA diver also includes being a rescue diver. "Once search and rescue is in your blood, it's hard to get it out," says Mr. Giffin.

During the tough physical training for the SRS position, Mr. Giffin said the Navy had a 25-50% success rate, while MSC CIVMARS were running at near 100% success rate. Mr. Giffin says, "It was one of the toughest but most rewarding undertakings I have completed in my life. I joined a brotherhood that only a few have had the privilege to say they belong."

Mr. Giffin keeps in shape aboard ship in the well-equipped gyms on MSC ships. reimbursable hours per pay period for

Physical Training. He also works with the crew during Man Overboard drills. However, Mr. Giffin believes it takes a personal commitment to a healthy lifestyle and hours of training to be in the peak shape necessary for a survival situation. Mr. Giffin runs and swims while ashore and competes in triathlons and marathons to stay fit.

For Mr. Giffin, MSC is the best place he could be in the maritime industry. "MSC has the best parts of the military without actually having to be in the military. Not to mention the pay is a little bit better here," he says. The best part of being a CIVMAR is getting "a broad view of the world that you don't get working and living in one spot. It also gives you great respect for the sacrifices of all our Men and Women in uniform, including Merchant Mariners, who help keep our country safe and prosperous."

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