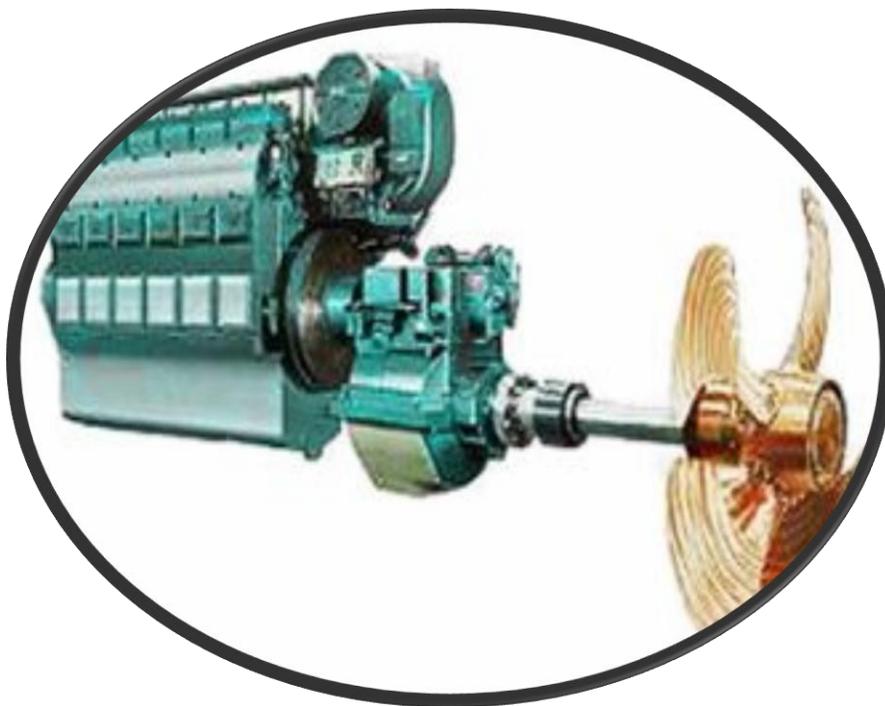


# **My Career in Marine Diesel Operations**



With a *Certificate in Marine Diesel Engineering*, graduates may have the possible *career options* of the following:

- Marine Diesel Mechanic
- Recreational Boat Mechanic/Motor Boat Mechanic
- Marine Maintenance Technician
- Marine Mechanic/Technician

### **Marine Diesel Boat Mechanic/Technician, Recreational Boat Mechanic/Motor Boat Mechanic**

The job descriptions and job specifications for these careers are as follows:

#### **Career Overview**

Responsible for the inspection and repair of mechanical and electrical systems of pleasure boats, including power boats, sail boats, and yachts. They typically repair all marine vehicle components, including propellers, marine plumbing, and navigational systems.

#### **Typical Duties:**

- Ability to work on a variety of pleasure boats (inboard and outboard engines).
- Disassemble and inspect motors to locate defective parts, using mechanic's hand tools and gauges.
- Mount motors to boats and operate boats at various speeds on waterways to conduct operational tests.
- Start motors and monitor performance for signs of malfunctioning, such as smoke, excessive vibration, or misfiring.
- Document inspection and test results and work performed or to be performed.
- Replace parts, such as gears, magneto points, piston rings, or spark plugs and reassemble engines.
- Idle motors and observe thermometers to determine the effectiveness of cooling systems.
- Set starter locks and align and repair steering or throttle controls, using gauges, screwdrivers or wrenches.

### **Typical Duties Cont'd:**

- Adjust carburetor mixtures, electrical point settings, or timing while motors are running in water-filled test tanks.
- Repair engine mechanical equipment, such as power tilts, bilge pumps, or power take-off.
- Inspect and repair or adjust propellers or propeller shafts.
- Repair or rework parts, using machine tools such as lathes, mills, drills, or grinders.
- Adjust generators and replace faulty wiring, using hand tools and soldering irons.

### **Work Environment**

Work may be at a boat dealership, yacht club, marina or self-employed. Work may be on inboard or outboard engines of various sizes, makes and models including diesel engines and fuel systems. Some technicians specialize in specific areas.

### **Qualifications and Licenses**

Vocational training is required. At present there are no C/NVQ's available in this area. However, certification may be acquired through the SJPP, the Caribbean Maritime Institute or international certification is available up to the associate degree level. Training may be provided on the job but some experience working with small engine repairs may be required.

### **Essential Qualities and Skills**

- ❖ Must possess mechanical aptitude
- ❖ Understanding of mechanical components, computer control systems
- ❖ Great problem solving skills
- ❖ Good hand and eye coordination
- ❖ Manual dexterity
- ❖ Ability to diagnose problems and make repairs quickly and reliably
- ❖ Must have strong communication skills

**References**

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