

1. Seventh meeting of NE Marine Cluster (17th December 2009)
 - a. Attendees: Richard Birmingham and Ana Mesbahi (Newcastle Univ), Tony Baker (North of England P&I), Rob Storey (Newcastle College), Richard Booth (Maersk Training Centre), John Lockey (Marine Design Centre), Gary Hindmarch (STC). Apologies from Fay Collington (ONE) and Lindsey Middleton (SEMTA)
 - b. GH gave a review of the previous meeting on 16th March via unofficial minutes. Updates from these minutes included:
 - i. Rear Admiral Chris Perry appointed as Chair of the new MMO, and Executives and Board members are being appointed shortly. Expects to be operational on 1st April 2010. It was agreed to invite the new Executive in to give a presentation to this group at the next meeting in summer 2010.
 - ii. JL reported that three local designers were nominated for the national final of the World Skill Olympics
 - iii. Clipper Wind event to be held on 27th January 2010 at MDC
 - iv. The Gateshead and Newcastle College Interreg IV project is for innovative maintenance techniques in Port Activities
 - c. New training activities in the region:
 - i. Subsea FD being delivered by Newcastle University and Newcastle College. 22 students started Sept 09, and this programme may lead into the range of MSc courses devised by Newcastle University.
 - ii. Update on the subsea facilities available at Newcastle College (Ryehill campus). The Diving Bell and Wellhead are integrated with a simulated control room.
 - iii. Marine Design FD has been validated by Teesside. 20 students enrolled following a TNA review with 54 companies. Satellite centres would be explored for delivery. This project would be highlighted in a Celebration event in February.
 - iv. The Offshore wind energy project (STC, Newcastle Univ, Northumbria College) has undergone a Business Plan review to determine what capital investments are required. Site of the project still being discussed within ONE
 - d. AM provided an overview of the current website activities and hits. The hosting charge was £50/month, falling to £20 which Newcastle University offered to pay for the group. All members were asked to review their content and report updates required to Ana.
 - e. The meeting with the Governor of Bank of England on 24th September was reviewed. The Governor was informed on the diverse and active range of marine activities in the NE England region.
 - f. Open Events occurring
 - i. 3/4/5 February – Open event for recruiting at Newcastle University
 - ii. 6th February – Open event for recruiting at South Tyneside College
 - iii. February 2010 – event at Kingston Park
 - g. Next meeting at Maersk Training Centre in May / June when the MMO would be invited.