

# The Shipbuilder

October 2008

**Fall Shipbuilding  
Milestones**

009 Delivered

013 Steel Cutting

010 Launched

011 Skidded

012 Keel Laying

**Don't Forget...**

To adjust your clock for Daylight Savings Time. This year it falls on Sunday, November 2 at 2:00 am. Be sure to set your clocks back by one hour!

**From the Desk of Jim Miller, President & CEO**



I would like to take this opportunity to share with you my views of the characteristics a "model" Aker Philadelphia Shipyard employee possesses. Overall, he/she lives and breathes our six values:

- *HSE Mindset* - We take personal responsibility for our health, safety and environment because we care
- *Delivering Results* - We deliver consistently and strive to beat our goals
- *Customer Drive* - Building customer trust is key to our business
- *People and Teams* - All our major achievements are team efforts

- *Hands-on Management* - We know our business and get things done
- *Open and Direct Dialogue* - We encourage early and honest communication

A model employee performs and delivers results while also being a leader in these values. An employee who works hard and is a "go-getter" but does not live our values is, in my view, mistakenly respected. In the long run they are a bad example because eventually they infect others, which leads to disharmony and dysfunctional teamwork.

More specifically, a model shipyard employee is skilled, productive, conscientious, and most of all performs every task with HSE in the forefront.

Productivity and HSE go hand in hand as one leads to the other. It is a proven fact that operations with the best HSE performance are also best in class, quality, profitability and schedule performance.

A model employee understands this and not only looks after themselves, but also their co-workers as well.

Furthermore, a model employee always tries to improve, accepts change, and further develops their skills by adopting a learning mindset. Making the same mistake more than once is not acceptable. He/she challenges themselves and others in an honest and positive way.

The above seems straightforward and simple, but is often a challenge for some. We all need to look deep inside ourselves and ask, "Do I possess these qualities and live them everyday or do I just give them lip service?" I believe in my heart that if our collective culture continues to embrace and live these values, there will be great improvements in our performance and predictability.

Please be safe.

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### Did You Know?

Project Controller Uliana Ekman recently became an official citizen of the United States.

Congratulations Uliana!



Top left to right: Dr. Alan Flake, Tom Marinucci, Dr. Kathy Loomes, Kelly Whitaker  
Bottom: The donor wall at The Children's Hospital



## Investor Day 2008

On Tuesday, September 9 Aker Philadelphia Shipyard and American Shipping Company held an Investor Day event. A total of 20 shareholders, analysts and other interested parties were given a tour of the shipyard, a tour of Hull 009 and presentations on each company.

Feedback from the event was very positive. The yard and ship tours were a big success and each attendee

walked away with a good understanding of what we do here in Philadelphia.

The support of our investors is vital to our company's progress. It is a special moment when they walk in this shipyard and see the value in our operations and people.

If you would like to see our Investor Day presentation, it is posted on our web site at [www.akerphiladelphia.com](http://www.akerphiladelphia.com).

On another note, if you think you may be interested in investing in our company, stay tuned for more information on an employee stock purchase plan, coming soon.



Investors finish touring the ship at APSI/AMSC Investor Day.

## Aker Philadelphia Shipyard Gives Back

Last month, Aker Philadelphia Shipyard held a polo shirt sale in coordination with the yard's ten year anniversary to raise money for The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), one of the leading children's hospitals in the world.

Of every shirt that was sold, Aker Philadelphia donated \$5 to CHOP. Together we raised \$600.

That effort, combined with proceeds from the dunk tank,

50-50 raffle and a contribution from Aker Philadelphia Shipyard, totaled a generous donation of \$5,000!

On Thursday, September 25 Tom Marinucci and Kelly Whitaker met with representatives from The Children's Hospital to make the official donation.

All money raised was donated to "The Children's Hospital Foundation" which distributes the money to the area of greatest need.

In addition, the company donated new toys from CHOP's wish list to the children of the hospital.

Hospital employees were grateful for the generosity of the employees and company, and the donation has earned a spot on the donor wall. Aker Philadelphia Shipyard's name will be added next year.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this fundraising effort a success.

## Name that Report

We are currently in the final stages of initiating a Near Miss Reporting System and we need your help.

The "Near Miss Report" will detail all near misses or "close calls" meaning an occurrence where there was no property damage and/or personal injury.

When utilized, this report will serve as a leading indicator to prevent safety incidents

from occurring. It will allow us a second chance at preventing specific incidents.

Here's where you can help. We need a clever name for the report, something positive and motivating. For example, another Aker company calls its report "POP - pursuit of prevention."

If you think you can come up with another great name, send your suggestions to

Kelly Whitaker, the public relations and communications specialist here in the yard.

A committee consisting of Jim Miller, Bob Fitzpatrick and Mike Masington will decide which name is best; and if it's yours, you could win \$500.

All suggestions must be submitted no later than Friday, October 24.

## Ship Updates

On Monday, September 29 the first steel plate was cut for Hull 013. Two Aker Philadelphia employees pushed the button on the yard's state of the art plasma cutter to officially begin construction.

Jesus Sabando, a ship-builder in Department 630, and Alan Oreszak, a Tool Crib Attendant in Department 720, were chosen to represent Aker Philadelphia Shipyard based on their contributions to the Employee Suggestion Program; a program which seeks sugges-

tions from employees on ways to improve production.

Jesus submitted six suggestions totaling a reward of \$1,000 and all have been researched, approved and are in place at the yard.

Alan submitted an idea to improve safety, a core value here in the yard, and has since improved the safety



*Steel Cutting for Hull 013.*

and well being of employees in the yard.

In addition, we recently delivered Hull 009, which is well on its way to moving petroleum products for BP.

Hull 010 is steadily moving toward completion as the last few sections will be set in place during the next few weeks, while Hull 011 continues growth in the dry dock as it begins to take shape.

As one ship leaves, another begins here in the yard as we sail ahead with four more ships under construction.

### ***Did You Know?***

The son of Curtis Mills, 2nd shift Grand Block welder, recently ran in the Olympics for Trinidad/Tobago in the men's 4x100 m relay. Congratulations Cowin Mills from your friends at Aker Philadelphia Shipyard!

## Continuous Improvements in Production

While we have delivered nine ships in ten years (six in the last five years) of three different designs, our learning is not done.

With seven more tankers in the current series we must continue to refine our skills, upgrade our equipment and innovate our methods as part of our continuous improvement efforts.

Training is essential to improving our skills. Our ability to provide welding training has been bolstered by the recent investment into the on-site training facility in the north end of the Outfitting Shop. Individual and group training is planned in techniques, common failures and skills enhancement.

Our first Apprentice class

graduated this past summer. Currently we are recruiting more to continue to increase the quality and size of our home grown workforce.

**“Training is essential to improving our skills.”**

Additionally, we are investing in our equipment to stay ahead of our competitors. Two of our most critical

production areas have been targeted: Profile Cutting and Double Bottom. Over the next few months we will complete an upgrade of two profile cutting robots and the DB welding robot with the newest computer aided manufacturing technology.

We must continue to challenge the underlying assumption of how we do our jobs to discover the results that are possible. One example of this type of innovation is that, in agreement with the union,

we are continuing the 4x10 work schedule in Production through March. Although not very common in most shipbuilding environments, the idea is simple and promotes more efficient working and savings on commuting costs.

There are other ways for all of us to contribute. The QIS system is set up for employees to identify areas in need of improvement or where our existing process has failed. The Safety and Productivity Improvement Committee has explored 176 suggestions and awarded almost \$5,000 since early 2007 to employees with good ideas to make our workplace safer and more efficient.

All of us must continue to strive for improvements. In doing so, we will be ready for today's challenges and future shipbuilding projects in our yard.

**“To reach a port, we must sail - sail, not tie at anchor - sail, not drift.”**

**- Franklin D. Roosevelt**

## Aker Philadelphia Shipyard

### Did You Know...

On August 19, Mayor Nutter visited the shipyard and is drafting a Proclamation in honor of our 10 Year Anniversary!

### Aker Family Day Recap



*On Saturday, September 13 almost 2,000 people came out to celebrate the ten year anniversary of the yard. Thank you for making Aker Family Day a success!*

### Contact us

We want to know what you're thinking. Please send questions, comments and suggestions to [kelly.whitaker@phillyshipyard.com](mailto:kelly.whitaker@phillyshipyard.com).



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