

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION
U.S. Department of Transportation
Center of Excellence (CoE) for Domestic Workforce Training and Education

Cabras Marine Corporation – Piti, Guam

The Secretary of Transportation designates Cabras Marine Corporation (CMC) as a Center of Excellence for Domestic Maritime Workforce Training and Education (CoE) for its leadership in waterfront ship repair, commercial tug and pilotage operations, and registered trade apprenticeships in the Western Pacific. Located at the Pacific Drydock and Integrated Maintenance (PACDIM) facility inside the Commercial Port of Guam, CMC is a woman-owned small business operating as the only waterfront full-service shipyard and largest ship repair apprenticeship employer in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Operational Footprint & Assets

CMC provides integrated commercial harbor services, expeditionary ship repair, and local maritime training infrastructure.

- **PACDIM Waterfront Shipyard:** Operates a 30,000+ square-foot full-service shipyard on 5.2 acres in Apra Harbor, housing machine shops, electrical labs, structural/pipefitter shops, a floating drydock, and 50,000+ sq ft of auxiliary warehouse space.
- **Maritime Training Facility (Piti, GU):** Features a dedicated local training facility conducting USCG-approved courses in partnership with Maritime Institute (formerly Mid-Atlantic Maritime Academy), including Able Seaman, QMED-Oiler, DDE 1000/4000 HP, OUPV, Master 100/200 Ton, Basic Training, and Advanced Firefighting.
- **Ashore Trade Apprenticeships:** USDOL Registered Apprenticeship Sponsor (since 2012) offering 12 specialized ashore career tracks: Carpenter, Ship/Boat Electrician, Metal Fabricator, Pipefitter, Welder (Arc, Combination, Fitter), Marine Engine/Outside Machinist, Rigger, Shipwright, Painter, and Crane Operator.
- **Afloat Fleet Operations:** Manages commercial harbor tugs, pilot boats, crew boats, oil spill response vessels (OSROCO), and cargo/fuel barges across Guam and CNMI ports.
- **Quality Accreditation:** Certified under ISO 9001:2015 quality management standards for ship repair and harbor pilotage.

Workforce & Regional Impact

CMC serves as a vital industrial defense contractor and workforce pipeline for U.S. 7th Fleet operations.

- **Defense Fleet Maintenance & Expeditionary Repairs:** Holds an active MSC/U.S. Navy IDIQ ship repair contract. Executing complex depot-level repairs, such as the 75% complete *USS Frank Cable* Mid-Term Availability, remotely on Naval Base Guam via expeditionary project offices and laydown footprint.
- **Ship Repair Boot Camps & Academies:** Partners with Guam Community College (GCC) to run 12-week Ship Repair Boot Camps and a 6-week intensive Ship Repair Welding Academy.

Boot camps have graduated nearly 100 local apprentices, all receiving immediate full-time employment offers.

- **Local Labor & Mentorship:** Has indentured 235 total apprentices since 2012, actively training local craftsmen alongside certified journeymen to address Guam's aging skilled labor pool. Approved mentor in the DoD Mentor-Protégé Program.

- **K-12 & Regional Outreach:** Conducts youth career presentations and PACDIM shipyard tours for local middle and high schools.

Strategic Outlook

Positions Guam as a key self-sustaining ship repair hub essential to the U.S. Indo-Pacific maritime strategy, U.S. Marine Corps buildup, and 7th Fleet forward-deployed readiness. By expanding local USCG mariner licensing courses, scaling specialized welding certifications with the Naval Welding Institute, and re-establishing depot-level drydocking capabilities, Cabras Marine Corporation guarantees a resilient, highly trained local American workforce in the Western Pacific.