



A Career as a Non-Commissioned Member Hull Technician

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TODAY'S Canadian Forces

WHAT THEY DO Hull Technicians (H TECHs) maintain the ship's structure, stability, plumbing, heating, air-conditioning, damage control and fire fighting equipment. They are the ship's carpenter, welder, metal worker and damage control expert.

- Maintain air-conditioning and ventilation systems
- Test, maintain and repair ship structure and hull fittings
 - Maintain, repair and install ship boats and liferafts
 - Perform arc and oxyacetylene welding
 - Perform carpentry and painting to maintain and repair ship fittings
 - Operate and maintain firefighting and damage repair equipment
 - Read and interpret sketches, engineering and mechanical drawings
- Maintain and repair ship piping systems, pumping and flooding systems, steam heating and de-icing equipment, and the ship's pollution and sanitation systems
- Calculate ship stability and identify potential problems



Training

Basic Military Qualification

The first stage of training for everyone is the 10-week Basic Military Qualification (BMQ) course at the Canadian Forces Leadership and Recruit School in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec. This training provides the basic core skills and knowledge common to all trades. A goal of this course is to ensure that all recruits maintain the CF physical fitness standard, as a result, the training is physically demanding. BMQ covers the following topics:

- Policies and regulations of the Canadian Forces;
- CF drill, dress and deportment (the "three D's");
- Basic safety;
- First aid;
- Personal survival in nuclear, biological and chemical conditions;
- Handling and firing personal weapons;
- Cross-country navigation; and
- Personal survival in field conditions.

Basic Military Occupation Training

On completion of the BMQ, Hull Technicians attend Naval Environmental Training (NETP) at the Canadian Forces Fleet School (CFFS) in Esquimalt, British Columbia or Halifax, Nova Scotia. Training takes approximately 5 weeks and includes:

- Naval history and organization
- Shipboard firefighting and damage control
- Watchkeeping duties
- Seamanship

Qualification Requirements

Hull Technicians must have a well-developed sense of touch and manual dexterity as well as an interest in working with equipment and tools. These technicians must be dependable and capable of working with a minimum of supervision. Patience, perseverance, resourcefulness and the ability to work as a member of a team and direct others, particularly in emergency situations, are necessary attributes. Due to the diversity of the jobs associated with the occupation, it is essential that H TECHs have the ability to acquire new skills and knowledge throughout their career.

The second portion of Basic Military Occupational (MOC) Training takes place at CFFS Esquimalt. Training takes approximately 20 weeks and includes the following:

- Reading and interpreting ship's drawings, blueprints and sketches
- Maintenance and repair of watertight and non-watertight openings Ship's plumbing and piping systems
- Sheet metal work
- Wood-working
- Welding
- Nuclear, biological and chemical defence
- Firefighting and damage control
- Ventilation and air-conditioning

Career Development

This occupation provides excellent career opportunities and training in a variety of occupation-related fields. It also provides numerous opportunities for job satisfaction, personal initiative and worldwide travel.

Advanced Military Occupation Training and Specialty Training

Personnel who demonstrate the required ability and ambition will undertake advanced military occupation training through formal courses or on-the-job training as they progress in their careers. Specialty training may also be available. Below are examples of training related to this occupation.

Advanced Military Occupation Courses

- Pollution Abatement
- Helicopter Firefighting, Crash and Rescue
- Quality Assurance and Quality Control
- Advanced Damage Control

Specialty Training Courses

- Petroleum Products Handling
- Welder – Inert Gas
- Instructional Techniques
- Air-Conditioning Controls

Working Environment

Hull Technicians spend much of their careers on board ships stationed in Halifax, N.S. or Esquimalt, B.C. They work in every compartment of the ship including confined spaces, double bottoms, on the upper deck and aloft under all weather conditions. They are subject to falls, burns and shocks from welding equipment and injuries from hand or power tools. On board ship, they are also exposed to high noise levels and are subject to limited living space, lack of privacy and irregular meal hours and rest periods. Ashore, H TECHs may work closely with civilian tradespersons in dockyards, performing or overseeing ship refit or repairs. As with all sea-going personnel, they are sailors first, technicians second. In addition to their duties, junior personnel are employed in out-of-occupation duties such as cleaning and painting the ship, working in the cafeteria or laundry, standing sentry duty or loading supplies.

Appropriate training, environmental clothing and equipment are provided, and Hull Technicians' health, safety and morale are closely monitored.

Related Civilian Occupations

- Ship Carpenter
- Arc/Acetylene Welder
- Paint Inspector
- Plumber
- Sheet Metal Worker
- Millwright

For more information, please call the Canadian Forces Recruiting at **1-800-856-8488**, or visit our Web site: **www.forces.gc.ca**

RIA 321E-0204