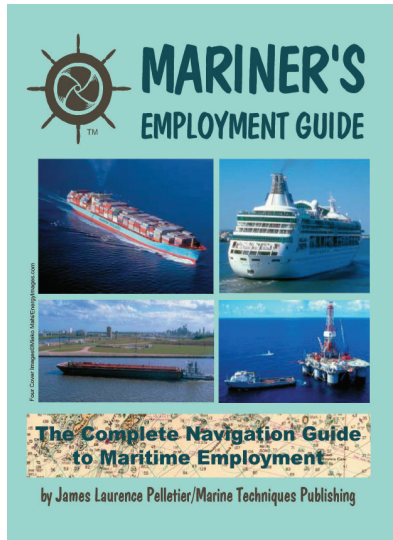


Book Review: Mariner's Employment Guide



When we decided to review James Pelletier's *Mariner's Employment Guide*, we had no idea as to the enormous scope and depth with which the book examines virtually every aspect of the world of maritime employment. But, the 598 pages of this remarkable compendium covers the broad range of applying for Coast Guard documents, where to get training, career tracks, salary surveys and much, much more. There is literally something here for everyone: from the entry-level mariner right up to the most experienced Master.

First published in 1983, *The Mariner's Employment Guide* has been updated no less than eight times — the last in 2007. Pelletier updates the book regularly and stays abreast with changes in licensing and documentation procedures — no easy task as the Coast Guard revamps how it does business with the U.S. commercial mariner. The book covers lower-level endorsements all the way up to unlimited licenses and provides statistical background on all of them.

The answer to virtually any question that a candidate might have about the maritime employment game is contained with this book. Pelletier's compendium probably gives its best utility to the entry-level mariner because of its exhaustive overview of so many obscure job titles that exist over a wide range of marine platforms. For the person who might ordinarily think there was no place at sea for him or her, James Pelletier will make him or her think again.

Pelletier says that he has sold about 70 percent of his latest edition and that sales continue at a brisk pace. In today's hot maritime employment environment, that's not a surprising revelation. The text retails for USD \$85 and can be found online or in a wide range of nautical bookstores, nationwide.

James Pelletier's background includes at-sea experience in the U.S. Navy and another twenty plus years on board a wide range of foreign and domestic, deep-draft vessels. He has a wealth of experience in other transportation modes, as well. After you read this book, you'll understand that his research abilities speak for themselves. At a time when the industry is literally crying out for competent mariners, James Pelletier's *Mariner's Employment Guide* shows potential seafarers the way forward. And, not a moment too soon. - *MarEx* - by Captain Joseph Keefe, Managing Editor - *The Maritime Executive Magazine & Newsletter* - Thursday, November 15, 2007 - Web Site: <http://www.maritime-executive.com/>

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