

Technical Meeting — 7 February 2018

Alex Robbins, MATV Acquisition Engineering Manager, Contractor to Defence, gave a presentation on Acquisition of a Multi-role Aviation Training Vessel for the Royal Australian Navy Multihulls to a joint meeting with the IMarEST attended by 43 on 7 February May in the Harricks Auditorium at Engineers Australia, Chatswood.

The Multi-role Aviation Training (MATV) MV Sycamore is a 94 m SOLAS Special Purpose Ship designed by Damen Shipyards and built by Damen in their Haiphong, Vietnam, yard for the Royal Australian Navy (RAN). The vessel is unique, being essentially a commercial vessel providing ADF-compliant aviation training capability to the RAN.

The ship's primary role is to support maritime aviation training of Defence helicopter flight crews. The vessel is a flight-deck equipped sea-going training vessel for most types of helicopters used by the Australian Defence Force. She arrived in Sydney on 26 June 2017 and final acceptance by the Commonwealth as an Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) Special Purpose Ship was achieved on 28 July 2017. The Commonwealth has engaged Teekay Shipping (Australia) to crew, operate and maintain the vessel. Teekay established the required operating and safety certifications to enable the initial operational voyage on 4 August 2017.

MATV Sycamore is somewhat of an outlier within recent acquisitions being delivered "On Time, On Budget, and On Specification". The presentation will briefly explore the underlying key features of the project, covering Team Characteristics, Organisational Structure, Mission Focus, Communications and Project Strategies.

It is expected that Alex's presentation will be written up in the May issue of The ANA.

The vote of thanks was proposed, and the certificate and "thank you" bottle of wine presented, by John Jeremy.



John Jeremy (R) presenting Alex Robbins with the "thank you" bottle of wine
(Photo Phil Helmore)