



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

**Department of Labor and  
Workforce Development**

Office of the Commissioner

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February 13, 2013

The Honorable Kevin Meyer, Co-Chair Senate Finance  
The Honorable Pete Kelly, Co-Chair Senate Finance  
The Honorable Anna Fairclough, Vice-Chair Senate Finance  
State Capitol Building  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senators Meyer, Kelly, and Fairclough,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide your committee with an overview of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development's FY2014 Capital budget requests. Provided below are responses to inquiries raised during the hearing.

**Question:** Confirm the age of the AVTEC Heavy Equipment Shop.

**Answer:** The building was constructed in 1975.

**Question:** Please provide the useful life of the software used for the Maritime Simulator upgrade, and the anticipated number of students served.

**Answer:** The useful life of the Maritime Simulator upgrade is a minimum of 10-12 years. The Alaska Vocational Technical Center (AVTEC) anticipates training roughly 475 individuals per year on the upgraded system.

**Question:** Please provide the useful life of the software used for the Mobile Mine Machine Simulator, and the anticipated number of students served.

**Answer:** The useful life of the Mobile Mine Machine Simulator is a minimum of 10-15 years. The University of Alaska Mining and Petroleum Training Service (MAPTS) program anticipates training roughly 400 individuals per year, without additional instructional staff, on the simulator.


**Question:** Does the university have the resources available to operate this simulator in their existing budget?

**Answer:** MAPTS has existing instructional staff that will be able to utilize this simulator to train roughly 400 students per year primarily in the Fairbanks area. With additional resources MAPTS could train more students on this simulator in more locations. There is obviously an operating cost associated with moving even a mobile simulator, especially to off road locations.

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Please let me know if you have any questions. I welcome the opportunity to speak with you further on these or any other topics related to the department.

Sincerely,

  
Dianne Blumer  
Commissioner