

Coast Guard Port Security  
SF Maritime Information Committee Notes  
July 31, 2003

Attendance: CDR. Jeff Saine, Paul Martin, Kenny Levin, Jerry Carr, Jeanette Fair, John Beard, Mark Smoot, Ed Huglett, Dave Connally, Lynn Korwatch, Jeff McCarthy

This was the second meeting to discuss the issues related to organization and scope of the communications committee. Jeff McCarthy started the discussion by describing the events from the previous meeting as they related to why everyone was invited. He went into further detail of the importance that the maritime industry be properly represented and at the same time attempt to keep the group relatively small to best handle the work. He then asked the group to think about the current representation and to make any suggestions for additional people. At this time there were no suggestions for additional representation, but the subject was left open for the next meeting.

Jeff then gave a brief description of the NorCal RISCS system to the group and how it is designed to address the needs of communication to and from industry and the Coast Guard. He also described the features it has to provide information to the maritime stakeholders to more efficiently perform the day-to-day tasks of security and resource oversight.

The next item of was a roundtable discussion of the perceptions that everyone had in regard to the value of a regional communication system and how it could play a role in the new maritime security rules. This discussion led to several inquiries as to the needs of the Coast Guard and Paul Martin presented the primary questions the MSO is tasked with addressing for the port security plan. The questions revolved around how the COTP should notify the maritime stakeholder of changes in MARSEC levels and other directives. The questions also were directed at what the proper mechanism should be for the information to be passed to the COTP. The group discussed the list of questions but since time did not allow, all agreed to take the list and provide responses to each question as it related to their respective organization. Those responses would then be collected by the Marine Exchange, compiled and delivered to the group for discussion at the next meeting. The group then discussed many scenarios as they related to the needs of information by the industry to perform their jobs efficiently. All agreed that the complexity of the security requirements could easily be onerous and there needed to be some system in place that would support as many scenarios as possible without sacrificing overall port security, company competition or trade.

The next item that was discussed was the identification of funding sources and Lynn described to the group the process that the Marine Exchange has been involved in for TSA Port Security Grant funding. There was some additional discussion regarding the TSA funding process and suggestions were made as to how the Marine Exchange could apply in the next round. It then asked if the Marine Exchange could provide the group with the previous TSA application and Lynn said that she would email to the group. Dave Connally said that he had some experience in grant writing and would provide suggestions. Lynn thanked Dave and said that any help the group could provide would be appreciated. Lynn also mentioned that if funding becomes available she expected that this group would have direct oversight as to system procurement. Jeff Saine then mentioned that the next round of grants would soon be closed and that we would need to move quickly. All agreed and it was agreed that the next meeting was to be scheduled for the following week on Thursday August 7th at 10am at the Bar Pilot office. Jeff and Lynn thanked all for attending and promised to bring donuts to the next meeting.