



TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE NEWS

A compendium of discussion at the monthly meeting by the Trade Facilitation Committee of the MARINE EXCHANGE of the San Francisco Bay Region – Fred Hosking, Chair. For further information or comments, call 415-441-6600, fax 415-441-3080 or visit www.sfm.org.
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January 2004

CHAIR -

Happy New Year!. May it be a healthy and prosperous one for us all. Meeting opened with a brief review of December items requiring updates or further clarification, and on time no less.

CBP & FDA Related issues

Congratulations to John Leyden on the State of the Port address to the CBFANC audience. It is an event that the trade community looks forward to each year and this was no exception. Well done. Reaffirmed CBP position on the move of the Marine Division to Oakland, while CBP reemphasized that the Marine functions/service would still be available at the 555 Battery location. CBP has made changes in the way agriculture shipments are staged for exams. CBP will coordinate the tailgate exams and those targeted for intensive exams will be moved to the centralized site on a PT by the CBP officer. Air France has stirred a documentation issue requiring hard copies of air docs in pouch form to accompany the cargoes in our “paperless” environment – contrary to 2004 ways of thinking. Radiation/portal monitors will make their debut in the Port of Oakland end of Spring, being the first port area in the nation to test them. The

inspections will be accomplished on pier of discharge.

PORT ACTIVITIES –

Regretfully we did not have a representative from the Port of Oakland, but we did have a follow up to the issue of CPB/Terminal Operators/ Port/ CBFANC/ SFMX again meeting to discuss status of Vacis exams. It was agreed for time being that such a meeting was not necessary, but that we’d continue to monitor activities in the event that a meeting of the minds was necessary in the future.

COAST GUARD –

Training will begin on Beta testing personal radiation devices. The MTSA implementation is in effect and going forward with expanded efforts in the next few months. The Northern California Area Maritime Security Committee is now in place comprised of 25 members of our trade community including maritime, local, state, and federal agencies. All vessels operating in US waters will have to have an approved security plan in place that complies with the ISPS and MTSA. The USCG has established a website to assist affected organizations in gaining compliance with the new requirements: .
www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/mp/index.htm

USCG is making every effort to educate the maritime community in an effort to speed compliance and have the process run in a smooth effective way.

CBFANC –

Introduction of the New CBFANC President, Jack Hubbard of TLR Logistics. We welcome his attendance and input at future meetings.

BANKING –

New rules for L/C drafts are in comment period. Dissemination of Standard Practices of International Banking documents is in full swing with a check list of requirements meeting strong acceptance. Ultimately any changes in the banking community could play havoc with international transactions effected through letters of credit. This is a very important trade segment often times not given just attention

Next meeting:

***Tuesday, February 24, 2004
San Francisco World Trade Club***

Attending:

Alan Steinbrugge, Marine Exchange; Ted Rausch and Helmut Boeck, Ted L. Rausch Co.; Jack Hubbard, CBFANC; John P. Leyden, CBP; CDR Steve Boyle, USCG; John Pressler, Hapag Lloyd; John Leitner, SFMX & W.J. Byrnes; Louis

Andrade, The Mechanics Bank;
Chaired by Fred Hosking, Hoyt
Shepston, Inc.