



## 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](http://www.sfm.org).  
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.....**Happy Thanksgiving!**.....

### November 2004

**CHAIR** Welcome Matthew Vafidis, Holland & Knight LLP, sitting in for last months birthday celebrant; we look forward to your future participation. Other items of interest and review: USCG Security level, Level 1, yellow/elevated; Legal – NVO’s & service contracts, who/when; Propeller Club meeting, big turnout/success; CSI – 4<sup>th</sup> Italian Port in place – who’s next? FDA amendments to current P/N procedures.

#### CBP & FDA Related issues –

CBP/FDA joint efforts moving forward with no real problems to report. Select site operating at SFO with CBFANC taking charge of box/key assignments. Question arose over status of the Oakland site which will be updated next meeting. *Serge up* in inspections in the Oakland port/terminals; sea cargoes are moving through well with minimal delays (if any) reported. If delays or bottle necks are discovered, they must be brought to CBP attention otherwise, cannot be dealt with.

#### PMSA –

Pollution issues have become more of a major issue, enter California Resources Board with regard to Cold Ironing of vessels and a resulting air quality emissions study to be put forward in 06; air quality suit in the LA Harbor in the mix with truck & vessel emissions both involved ... read “Bradford Suit”... ground level ozone levels, presume on carriers/truckers/terminals to enforce/

create; emissions standards are in place but must be adhered to.

#### COAST GUARD –

**Security level One, yellow, elevated.** Air quality - a local/state/EPA enforcement issue. California Resources Board is the umbrella for local Port area; 1/5 year window of/for changes & implementation of new operating procedures in port(s) areas to come forward. Concerns over tank cleaning authority and who has final sign off; USCG has it in hand. Rough seas outside the gate even for some of the larger container vessels... fortunately nothing lost overboard. Ramping up of security plans with Vice Admiral Harvey Johnson stepping up with the Port of Oakland; end year – 31 December – is the deadline for vessel signal/identity programs to be in place. USCG has invited the State of California to participate in the established security plans they now have in place.

#### LEGAL -

Issue of NVOCC service contracts has come to pass but still with remaining questions/doubts as to implementation and monitoring. Further discussion with PMSA issues.

#### CARRIERS -

We have aired in many issues the increases in vessel new building, last of iron/steel in some countries, but now a new twist is the outright purchase of vessel blue prints, not at a small fee -- \$16M reputedly...

Vessel traffic in LA/LB still backed up, although delays becoming less; speed issues (yes even for container vessels, albeit no water skiing yet) have taken on a serious note in southern ports as well as the Bay area – which strictly enforces local levels. Port of Eureka alive and well with their limited commodity movements.

#### PORTS – (and related portals...)

Captain William Greig now heads the local Bar Pilots Association. Well known in the local arena, our hearty congratulations.

#### CBFANC –

Once again we are witness to thanks by the CBFANC membership to our local CBP and John Leyden for the smooth operations during the challenges of the FDA/BTA phase in(s) where there could have been major malfunctions. Thanks to CBP for taking the extra steps to prevent those beforehand – the local brokerage community gives a *serge up* in appreciation More challenges are ahead without a doubt.

#### *Next meeting:*

**Tuesday, December 14, 2004**  
**San Francisco World Trade Club**

**Attending:** Alan Steinbrugge & Kaitlin Ortega, SFMX; Tom Kearsley, Pacific Commodities; Captain Jerry Swanson, COTP, USCG; John P. Leyden, CBP; John Leitner, W. J. Byrnes; John Berge, PMSA; Matthew Vafidis, Holland & Knight; Gerhard Jacob, Hamburg Sud; Jack Hubbard, CBFANC; Chaired by Fred Hosking, Hoyt Shepston, Inc.