

SECTOR HOUSTON-GALVESTON AMSC

TASK STATEMENT ACTION SHEET

COMMITTEE/WORKING GROUP TITLE: Facility Security Working Group

TASK TITLE: Working Group to address issues and opportunities related to security at facilities within Houston-Galveston-Texas City-Freeport region, including the implications for other stakeholder activities and overall operations within the port complexes.

DESCRIPTION OF TASK: Through broad interaction with facility security personnel and other stakeholders (including vessel operators, seafarer welfare organizations and vessel agents) identify issues and develop solutions to enhance security at MTSA facilities within the region while minimizing adverse impacts for all stakeholders.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Through working group meetings, correspondence and outreach, develop plans and procedures to address the tasking of the working group, implementing solutions as appropriate, referring issues as needed to the appropriate office within the US Coast Guard, and periodically reporting back to the AMSC Steering Team.

RECOMMENDED PRIORITY AND TIME FRAME:

Priority: (highest) 1 3 4 5 (lowest)

Date Required: Short Term Tasks: June 2010
Medium Term Tasks: December 2010
Long Term Tasks: Ongoing

Other dates/deadlines/milestones: N/A

USCG Coordinator: CDR Rob Smith, USCG, Sector Houston-Galveston Prevention

CO-CHAIRS: Mr. Peter Simons and Mr. James Prazak

Approved by the AMSC Steering Team:



CAPT Marcus Woodring
Federal Maritime Security Coordinator
Sector Houston-Galveston

Date approved: 28 Feb 10

SECTOR HOUSTON-GALVESTON AMSC

Facility Security Working Group

TASK STATEMENT

1. TASK TITLE

Working Group to address issues and opportunities related to security at facilities within Freeport-Galveston-Houston-Texas City region, including the implications for other stakeholder activities and overall operations within the port complexes.

2. BACKGROUND

Security remains a high priority for the maritime industry, but actions taken to address security at a facility can have adverse consequences for other parts of the maritime industry and potentially impact the overall safety and operability of the port complex. Previous efforts to coordinate the implementation of the TWIC program within the Sector were greatly enhanced by regular meetings of maritime stakeholders who proactively worked together to identify and resolve issues, leading to a relatively seamless implementation of the program. The Facility Security Working Group is tasked to continue those efforts on a broader scale, focusing on all aspects of facility security, recognizing the impacts that security programs may have on the safety and overall operation of a port.

3. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Significant emphasis has been placed on maritime security since the terrorist attacks in 2001. As facilities have enhanced their security, there have been significant impacts on other maritime stakeholders, leading to disgruntled seafarers, strained relations, and increased traffic within the port area. During a recent study, it was determined that this increase in traffic has significant safety implications for the port. Working together, stakeholders within the region can identify best practices and mutually agreeable solutions that can address these issues while improving overall security within the port. At the same time, by proactively working to address new security requirements, the group will enable appropriate coordination and implementation of these requirements within the port community.

4. TASKS

- (1) Short Term: Completion by September 2010
 - a. Identify security-related issues that adversely impact facility access and vessel support leading to restrictions on shore access for mariners, excess vessel movements, and other negative impacts for vessels and facilities within the region
 - b. Identify and document best practices being used by facilities that reduce or eliminate these restrictions/impacts.
 - c. Develop and implement a plan to begin outreach to individual facilities, stakeholder groups and the maritime community to address issues and drive improvement in each of these areas.

- d. Monitor pending regulatory requirements for their impact on the industry and develop plans to enhance a coordinated implementation and issues resolution within the region.
- e. As needed, communicate lessons learned and/or recommendations to the FMSC and AMSC and, as requested, provide additional assistance related to proposed regulatory or policy changes
- f. Provide a preliminary report to the FMSC by September 15, 2010.

(2) Medium Term: Completion by January, 2011

- a. Identify other core issues facing the maritime industry and provide recommendations for subsequent action.

(3) Long Term: Ongoing

- a. Leverage security efforts throughout the port community.
- b. Monitor impact of pending legislation for the port community.
- c. Amend this task statement as needed in order to fulfill the objectives of the Working Group.

5. FREQUENCY OF REVIEW

The task statement will be reviewed on an annual basis, or more frequently as deemed necessary by the Federal Maritime Security Coordinator, the AMSC Steering Team, the USCG Coordinator (or whatever your title should be) and/or the Chair(s) of the Working Group.

6. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Sensitive Security Information may be discussed in the meetings of this committee. As such, the following conditions apply:

- a. Participants may be required to sign a non-disclosure document and/or receive SSI clearance from the US Coast Guard.
- b. Security information may not be released to the news media or the public without approval of the Federal Maritime Security Coordinator.
- c. Membership and participation in meetings may be limited to prevent the improper release of security and/or business-confidential information.