



CMTS

U.S. Committee on the Marine Transportation System

SUMMARY

Committee on the Marine Transportation System
Coordinating Board Meeting

June 12, 2012

Coordinating Board Meeting Actions:

1. Previous Meeting Summary: The summary of the March 13, 2012, Coordinating Board meeting was approved as presented.
2. E-Navigation: The proposed e-Navigation Integrated Action Team (IAT) draft work and implementation plans were presented by IAT- Co-lead Mr. Mike Solosi (USCG). The draft documents, which outline the anticipated work of the IAT through November 2012, were approved as proposed. The seven member IAT next meets on Monday, July 16.
3. Infrastructure Investment Coordination: The proposed organizational documents for the recently established Infrastructure Investment IAT, including Terms of Reference and Implementation Plan, were presented by IAT Co-lead, CAPT Dave Murk (DOT). The draft documents were approved as presented. The IAT has met twice and has formed separate teams to address specific implementation plan tasks, including a comparison of decision criteria, a map of Federal MTS infrastructure investments, and an analysis of alternative evaluation techniques and criteria. In addition, the IAT is providing support to the White House Navigation Task Force.

Contacts are Dave Murk (David.Murk@dot.gov) and Pat Mutschler (Pat.Mutschler@cmts.gov).

Presentations and Reports:

- Arctic MTS Policy Paper: Ms. Ashley Chappell (NOAA), co-lead for the CMTS U.S. Arctic Marine Transportation IAT, provided a status report on draft CMTS Arctic policy response to Congress. The draft response is in the final stages of being prepared to commence CMTS interagency review. The expected two-month interagency comment period will afford all CMTS member agencies an opportunity to review and revise the draft document. The seven-member IAT and the CMTS Executive Secretariat will be responsible for recording, compiling, and incorporating received comments. After this review, the final draft policy response is expected to be presented to the Coordinating Board at its next meeting in September.

Contacts: Ashley Chappell, Ashley.Chappell@noaa.gov; Richard Corley, Richard.Corley@dot.gov; Dennis Holland, Dennis.M.Holland@uscg.mil.

- MTS Research and Development Conference: Mr. Jeff Lillycrop (USACE), CMTS MTS Research and Development IAT Lead, presented an overview of the upcoming second biennial MTS research and development conference, "Diagnosing the Marine Transportation System: Measuring Performance and Targeting Improvement." The conference will be held in Washington, DC, June 26-28 and is co-sponsored by the CMTS and the Transportation Research Board. The conference is intended to examine performance indicators in marine transportation and waterways management for cross-agency application to better determine the value of the MTS and identify MTS research needs. Coordinating Board members are urged to attend the conference.

Members may register for the conference online at <http://www.trb.org/conferences/metrics2012.aspx>. Transportation Deputy Secretary John Porcari and USACE Deputy Commanding General for Civil and Emergency Operations MG Michael Walsh are conference keynote speakers.

Conference contact is Jeff Lillycrop (Jeff.Lillycrop@usace.army.mil).

- MTS Compendium: Federal Maritime Commission Legislative Counsel and Compendium Task Team Lead Ms. Stacey Evans provided a status report on the CMTS compendium. Ms. Evans' report included a demonstration of the three versions of the matrix of Federal MTS programs and functions. The MTS versions vary in complexity and provide flexibility to align the MTS matrix with different audiences. To support the MTS matrix, the following will be included: short written descriptions of the Federal programs and functions, a listing of Department and agency points of contact, and a listing of frequently asked questions about the MTS.

The MTS Compendium, including all three versions of the MTS matrix, will be posted and accessible on the CMTS website by August 1. In order to meet this deadline, CMTS member agencies are urged to submit their requested program/function descriptions to Dr. Aly Azzara (Alyson.Azzara@cmts.gov) of the CMTS Executive Secretariat by Friday, July 13.

- Atlantic Offshore Wind Energy Development and the MTS: CAPT Pauline Cook (USCG) provided an update on USCG's Port Access Route Study (PARS) to assess what impacts the siting, construction, and operation of proposed wind energy development in the Mid-Atlantic region may have on maritime traffic. CAPT Cook said it may be of value to involve other CMTS member agencies in the PARS. USCG therefore intends to sponsor an exploratory meeting for interested agency representatives in the near future.
- TIGER IV: Mr. Paul Baumer with the Office of the Secretary of Transportation provided an update on the fourth round of the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grants, which were expected to be awarded and reported on at the meeting. However, the grants awards will not be announced until later this month. Mr. Baumer thanked CMTS partner agencies for their willingness to participate in the TIGER IV review process.
- Response to Tsunami Marine Debris: Mr. Dave Westerholm, Director of the NOAA Office of Response and Restoration and on behalf of the Interagency Marine Debris Coordinating Committee, presented an in-depth event overview and response update regarding Japan Tsunami Marine Debris. Mr. Westerholm thanked agencies that have helped monitor and report sightings of marine debris. He also provided a fact sheet on Japan Tsunami Marine Debris, and indicated that the Council on Environmental Quality will be issuing interagency marine debris background materials, including FAQs and authorities, which will be shared with Coordinating Board members.
- Export Container Availability: Speaking on behalf of the CMTS National Export Initiative Task Team, FMC Commissioner Michael Khouri presented a sample economics and trade briefing paper prepared by the FMC Bureau of Trade Analysis. The briefing paper is an example of what would be provided to the Coordinating Board on a regular basis on the status of liner vessel capacity and equipment availability, the National Export Strategy recommendation being implemented by the CMTS.

NEI Task Team contact: John Moran (JMoran@FMC.gov).

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LEFT: On behalf of DOT, Joel Szabat of MARAD thanks Margaret Spring for her 18-month tenure as Coordinating Board Chair.

BELOW: Captain Pauline Cook, U.S. Coast Guard, presents the International Association of Lighthouse Authorities mug to Margaret Spring as a token of thanks for her service.





ABOVE: Rick Lockwood, on behalf of Major General Walsh of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, presents the Jefferson Cup to Margaret Spring in recognition of her outstanding leadership of the Coordinating Board.