UNITED STATES COAST GUARD SECTOR NEW ORLEANS

MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Volume XV, Issue 084

TIME: 1230

DATE: 2 6 OCT 2015

AMSTEP Exercise Announcement

On Wednesday, December 9, 2015, Sector New Orleans will sponsor the 2015 Area Maritime Security Training and Exercise Program (AMSTEP) Exercise to test the Area Maritime Security (AMS) Plan, including Maritime Security (MARSEC) Level notification procedures, communication and the establishment of the Marine Safety Operation Centers (MSOCs).

Sector New Orleans Captain of the Port (COTP) will test the Alert Warning System (AWS) as part of the exercise. All facilities, vessel owners and operators located in Sector New Orleans COTP zone, including MSU Baton Rouge area of operation (AOR) are required to acknowledge receipt of the alert. All facilities and vessels in port or operating on the Lower Mississippi River (LMR) between Mile Marker (MM) 00 Above Head of Passes (AHP) and MM 168.5 AHP are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to activate their Facility or Vessel Security Plans in concert with this exercise. Any participating facilities or vessels that match or surpass the criteria set forth in 33 CFR 105.220 or 33 CFR 104.230 may receive drill or exercise credit.

All facilities and vessels electing to participate in the exercise please e-mail the following information with the subject line titled "AMSTEP Participant" to Mr. Roy Ford at roy, j.ford@uscg.mil and Mr. Mark Taylor at mark.a.taylor2@uscg.mil.

- 1) Name of facility or vessel
- 2) Physical location (if applicable)
- 3) Name of FSO, VSO or CSO
- 4) 24 hour contact number

All Facility Security Officers (FSOs), Company Security Officers (CSOs) and Vessel Security Officers (VSOs) are encouraged to update their Homeport accounts via the Homeport Helpdesk at http://homeport.uscg.mil.

For additional information regarding the exercise, please contact Mr. Roy Ford at: 504-365-2116; roy.j.ford@uscg.mil or Mr. Mark Taylor at: 504-365-2119; mark.a.taylor2@uscg.mil

> CAPTAIN P. C. SCHIFFLIN Captain of the Port New Orleans