



Homeland  
Security

# Towing Vessel National Center of Expertise



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# National Centers of Expertise



# National Centers of Expertise



Vintage Vessels ★

Suspension &  
Revocation ★

Center of Expertise for  
Centers of Expertise

Investigations

Gas Carriers ★

Outer  
Continental  
Shelf

Cruise  
Ships ★



# Where are We Currently?

- Building for Towing Vessel Center for Expertise
  - Still Working on Furniture and Phone/Computer Lines
  - Took Occupancy September 29, 2009
- Hiring 2 TVCOE Civilian Trainer/Inspectors





# What is the Function/Mission of the TVNCOE?

- Assist in conducting inspections and examinations on towing vessels
- Interpret policy and program guidance for the towing vessel examination/inspection program
- Conduct outreach and develop informal partnerships with the towing industry and government stakeholders
- Develop, maintain, and update curriculum for Towing Vessel Examination/Inspection training
- Assist with elements of the Towing Vessel Bridging Program





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# Towing Vessel Bridging

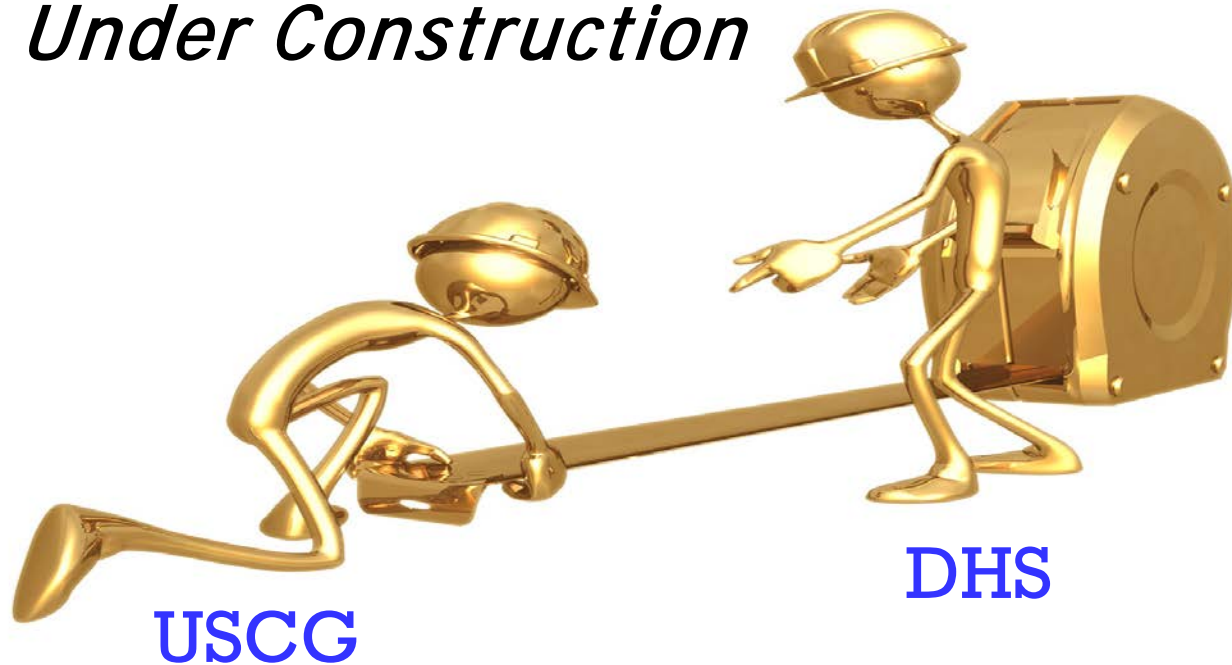
Why do we need  
a bridge?





# Regulatory Project Subchapter "M"

*Under Construction*





# What is the Purpose of the Bridging Program?

- To ease towing vessel operators into an inspection regime
- To enhance, improve, & increase CG interactions with the towing industry
- To acclimate all stakeholders to the procedures, policy, & requirements of an inspection program
- To avoid disruptions to commerce when the regulations become effective







# Guiding Principles

- ✓ Coast Guard personnel shall engage the towing vessel industry in the spirit of partnership and cooperation during this transition to inspection and certification.
- ✓ All encounters will be measured and professional while ultimately ensuring compliance with applicable safety, security, and environmental protection regulations.
- ✓ Transparency will be the hallmark of this program both internally and externally.
- ✓ Examine every UTV that will be inspected under Subchapter M during the Bridging Period.





# Elements of the Program

- Outreach, Education, and Qualification



- Industry Initiated Exams



- Risk Based Exams



- Surge Ops

- Law Enforcement Boardings





# The Program

## A phased approach...





# Phase 1

- Outreach
  - Interaction between CG and Industry at all levels
  - Learn each others cultures/get used to each other
- Education
  - Indoctrination Program for all Examiners
  - Complete Qualification Requirements
- Industry Scheduled Exams
  - At Industry's Convenience
  - Goal – to get as many Tows/Tugs decaled as possible





Homeland Security

# Partners



*JB Marine*

**DeLoach Marine**

Ingram

*Marathon Oil*

Channel Shipyard

*Wepfer Marine*

American Commercial Lines

**HIGMAN MARINE**

**The Action Group Companies**

**Allied**

Upper River Services

*Rushing Marine Services*

*Canal Barge*

**Kirby**

**Bay-Houston Towing**

**K-Sea**

**FOSS**

Great Lakes Group

*American Waterways Operators*





# Bridging and Implementation Team (BAIT)

- WG1: Develop Industry Orientation & Indoc Program
- WG2: Develop Training & Quals for Towing Vessel Examiners
- WG3: Propose MISLE content & upgrades for Tow Vsl Exams
  - develop a MISLE Job Aid for Towing Vessel Examinations
- WG4: Create Risk Based Targeting Tool to help prioritize CG initiated exams in Phase II.





# What has been accomplished so far?

- Industry/CG Working Groups Have Completed
  - New Examiner Indoctrination Program
  - Examiner Qualification Standard (PQS)
  - Uninspected Towing Vessel MISLE User Guide
  - Towing Vessel Examination Guide
  - Examination Forms, Decals
- New Towing Vessel Examiners (~100) have shown up at units and are being indoctrinated and trained
- Two Districts have held formal “Roll-out” training for their new examiners with more Districts to follow
- Over 15 companies hosting over 20 CG personnel in the Indoctrination program.
- 28 Qualified examiners





# Where can I find all this stuff?

- **All info posted on Homeport**
  - you do not need to login to obtain info
  - <http://homeport.uscg.mil> (or google "homeport")
- **Transparency is a key component of the program.**
  - **TVBP Indoc, Orientation, and Outreach Workbook**
  - **TVBP message, policy memo, powerpoint, training message**
  - **UTV Exam Form, Instructions, PQS, and MISLE guidebook**





- 
- Containers
- Domestic Vessels
- Environmental**
- Facilities
- Incident Management and Preparedness
- Investigations
- Marine Safety
- Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) & Information Sharing (IS)
- Maritime Security
- Merchant Mariners
- Port State Control
- Ports and Waterways
- Regulations/Administrative Adjudications
- Strategic Initiatives

**News**  
**CG News**

**Online Customer Survey Now Available**  
A Licensing Customer Survey is now available in Homeport. [more...](#)

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**Port Security Advisory 3-09, 4-09 (rev 1), and 5-09**  
Port Security Advisory 3-09, Port Security Advisory 4-09 (rev 1), and Port Security Advisory 5-09 have been published. [more...](#)

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**United States - IMO Voluntary Member State Audit Scheme**  
Presented is the Voluntary Member State Audit Scheme (VMSAS) final audit report for the United States in coordination with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) along with the audit summary report that is circulated with other IMO member states. The VMSAS audit program occurs every five years for participating member states - the next VMSAS audit for the U.S. will occur in 2013. The goal of the VMSAS audit program is to ensure member states are fulfilling their IMO mandatory instrument obligations to which they are signatory to as well as to evaluate overall effectiveness. The U.S. looks forward to fortifying our responsibilities and commitment to global maritime safety, maritime security, and protection of the marine environment... [more...](#)

**The New CG Sector Commands**  
**CG Sector Command Information**

**Sector Directory**  
Directory of new Sector Mappings with phone numbers. [more...](#)

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**CG Sector Commands**  
The CG is reorganizing all field units into Sector Commands by merging traditional Groups, Marine Safety Offices (MSO) and Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) under one operational commander. [more...](#)

**Sector Map**

**National Security Levels**  
**Security Levels**

**H1N1 Flu Info**

U.S. Info >  
Things You Can Do >  
Plan & Prepare >  
International Info >

HHS.gov CDC.gov

**Homeport H1N1 Influenza Info**

**National MARSEC Level**

**MARSEC LEVEL**

**1 2 3**

**SIGNIFICANT RISK**

**HSAS**

**THREAT ADVISORY**

**ELEVATED** ■■■■

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks.

[All COTP MARSEC Levels](#)

- Featured Homeport Links**
- [IPS Program](#)
  - [MTSA](#)
  - [TWIC](#)
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  - [US Inspected Vessels](#)
  - [Marine Safety Center](#)
  - [Licensing Customer Survey](#)
  - [Anti-Piracy](#)
- Coast Guard Quick Links**
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  - [U.S. Coast Guard](#)
  - [Coast Guard Auxiliary](#)
  - [CGMIX / PSIX \(MISLE data\)](#)
- Homeland Security**
- 


**Alerts and Notices**  
**General Operations**

- [Securing Watertight Doors](#)
- [Safety Alert - Unlicensed to Drive!](#)
- [Safety Alert - Medical Advisory - Chantix](#)

[more...](#)

**Most Current**

- [1. NEW! EPIRB and PLB Registration](#)
- [Compact Fluorescent Lights](#)
- [Fuel Switching Information](#)


Containers
<b>Domestic Vessels</b>
▶ Alternate Inspection Programs
▶ Domestic Vessel Tools
▶ Inspected Vessels
▶ Uninspected Vessels
▶ Domestic Vessel Policy
▶ Domestic Vessel General
▶ Domestic Vessel Links
Environmental
Facilities
Incident Management and Preparedness
Investigations
Marine Safety
Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) & Information Sharing (IS)
Maritime Security
Merchant Mariners
Port State Control
Ports and Waterways
Regulations/Administrative

**Domestic Vessels**

**Alternate Inspection Programs**

[Alternate Compliance Program ACP](#), [Maritime Security Program MSP](#), [Streamlined Inspection Program SIP](#)

**Domestic Vessel Tools**

[FAQs](#), [Job Aids](#), [Forms](#)

**Inspected Vessels**

[Passenger Vessels](#)

**Uninspected Vessels**

[Commercial Fishing Vessels](#), [Towing Vessels](#)

**Domestic Vessel Policy**

- [Craft Routinely Operated Dockside](#)
- [Marine Safety Manual Volume II](#)
- [Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circulars \(NVIC\)](#)
- [Office of Vessel Activities Policy Letters](#)
- [Piracy](#)

**Domestic Vessel General**

- [EPA Vessel General Permit \(VGP\)](#)
  - [Long Range Identification and Tracking \(LRIT\)](#)
  - [MARPOL ANNEX VI](#)
  - [Material Safety Data Sheets \(MSDS\)](#)
  - [MSC.1/Circ. 1283](#)
- [more...](#)

**Domestic Vessel Links**

- [National Vessel Documentation Center](#)
- [USCG Marine Safety Center](#)
- [USCG Navigation Center](#)

**Featured Homeport Links**

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**Coast Guard Quick Links**

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Back Forward Stop Refresh Home Search Favorites Homeport Search Highlight Zip Code: ELEVATED Tools Links

Address http://homeport.uscg.mil/mycg/portal/ep/programView.do?channelId=-18359&programId=13045&programPage=%2Fep%2Fprogram%2Feditorial.jsp&pageTypeId=13489&BV\_SessionID=@@@@0131180892.1249492175@@@&BV

U.S. COAST GUARD Type in a keyword Search Highlight Zip Code: ELEVATED Tools Links



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Missions Port Directory Library

Missions > Domestic Vessels > Uninspected Vessels > Towing Vessels



Alternate Inspection Programs

Domestic Vessel Tools

Inspected Vessels

Maritime Safety and Security Customer Satisfaction Report

**Uninspected Vessels**

Commercial Fishing Vessels

**Towing Vessels**

Domestic Vessel Policy

Domestic Vessel General

Domestic Vessel Links

## Uninspected Vessels Topics

### Towing Vessels

Content Name	Last Modified	Actions
<p><b><u>CG-AWO QAT Travel Time Report</u></b></p> <p>Report to promote safe practices for managing crew travel time throughout tugboat, towboat, and barge industry and to ensure a clear understanding of regulations and policy governing crew travel time.</p>	Tue, Oct 28, 2008	
<p><b><u>Customer Survey</u></b></p> <p>Summary: A Licensing Customer Survey and Maritime Safety and Security Customer Survey are now available in Homeport. As part of the Marine Safety Performance Plan, the Coast Guard has developed online customer surveys. The Coast Guard looks forward to garnering valuable feedback from its key customers and stakeholders. Your feedback will be used to improve service to merchant mariners and the maritime industry. Please take a moment to complete the survey by following the link below.</p>	Thu, Jun 25, 2009	
<p><b><u>Requirements for Uninspected Towing Vessels Guide Book</u></b></p> <p>A Guide Book to assist UTV owners and operators comply with uninspected towing vessel regulations.</p>	Fri, Jun 12, 2009	
<p><b><u>Towing Vessel Bridging Program</u></b></p>	Tue, Jul 28, 2009	
<p><b><u>Towing Vessel Bridging Program Outreach Materials</u></b></p> <p>The attached documents can be printed locally and used for outreach and education of industry and CG members.</p>	Thu, Jul 30, 2009	

#### Featured Homeport Links

- [IPS Program](#)
- [MTSA](#)
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- [CGMIX / PSIX \(MISLE data\)](#)
- [CFATS](#)

#### Homeland Security



- Alternate Inspection Programs
- Domestic Vessel Tools
- Inspected Vessels
- Uninspected Vessels**
  - Commercial Fishing Vessels
- Towing Vessels**
  - Domestic Vessel Policy
  - Domestic Vessel General
  - Domestic Vessel Links










### Towing Vessel Bridging Program

**Summary:** Messages, Information, Presentations, and Policy for the Coast Guard's Towing Vessel Bridging Program

Pursuant to the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2004, Pub. L. 108-293 of August 9, 2004, a significant regulatory project is underway that would subject the majority of commercial towing vessels to inspection. In the period between the current and future state of towing vessel safety oversight, a Towing Vessel Bridging Program (TVBP) has been initiated by the Office of Vessel Activities (CG-5431) to ease the transition and ensure that both the Coast Guard and the towing vessel industry are informed and prepared to meet the new requirements to be finalized in Subchapter M. This goal will be accomplished by enhancing, improving, and increasing Coast Guard interactions with the towing vessel industry, and by acclimating all involved with the procedures, policy, requirements and administration of existing and, as implementation draws closer, new Subchapter M regulations. To further these ends, during this period of transition the Coast Guard will conduct extensive industry outreach, properly train our people, and will examine every uninspected towing vessel (UTV) that will be inspected under Subchapter M.

For questions on the Towing Vessel Bridging Program, contact Mr. Patrick Lee at [patrick.j.lee@uscg.mil](mailto:patrick.j.lee@uscg.mil) or (202) 372-1135.

**Updated:** Thursday, July 9, 2009 9:34 AM

- Supporting Documents**
-  [TVBP Indoc, Orientation, and Outreach Workbook - 14 MB](#)
  -  [TVBP Message - 17 KB](#)
  -  [TVBP Policy Memo - 1 MB](#)
  -  [TVBP Powerpoint - 1012 KB](#)
  -  [TVBP Training Message - 24 KB](#)
  -  [UTV Exam Form - 134 KB](#)
  -  [UTV Exam Form Instructions - 37 KB](#)
  -  [UTV Examiner PQS - 474 KB](#)
  -  [UTV MISLE Guidebook - 4 MB](#)

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# Information & Downloads



**WEBPAGE ADDRESS:**

**<https://homeport.uscg.mil>**

**Path:**

**Missions > Domestic Vessels > Uninspected  
Vessels > Towing Vessels**





# What is TVCOE Doing Next?

- Assist in developing training for Towing Vessel Examiners/Inspectors
- Develop a Risk Based Protocol for prioritizing Phase 2 CG Scheduled Exams
- Outreach and Communication: continue to facilitate interaction between our industry partners and Coast Guard personnel





# Questions?

