Towing Vessel National Center of Expertise

CDR Greg Case
504 Broadway Suite 101
Paducah, KY 42001
Cell: (270) 816-0693
MSU: (270) 442-1621
Email: Gregory.D.Case@USCG.Mil
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
Why do we need a bridge?
Regulatory Project
Subchapter “M”

Under Construction

USCG

DHS
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 & Education
- Industry Initiated Exams
- Testing of Risk Tool

**Phase 2**
- Risk Based Exams
- Development of Formal Training

**Phase 3**
- COI Issuance
- Priority Ordering
- Formal Training

Summer 2009
18-24 months later
Subchapter “M” Published
Phase 1

• Outreach
  – Interaction between CG and Industry at all levels
  – Learn each other’s 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
Partners

JB Marine
DeLoach Marine
Ingram
Channel Shipyard
Marathon Oil
American Commercial Lines
Wepfer Marine
The Action Group Companies
Higman Marine
Upper River Services
Allied
Canal Barge
Rushing Marine Services
K-Sea
Bay-Houston Towing
Great Lakes Group
American Commercial Lines
Transport
K-Sea
Foss
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
Homeport: Domestic Vessels - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by United States Coast Guard

Missions
   Port Directory  Library

Domestic Vessels
   Alternate Inspection Programs
   Domestic Vessel Tools
   Inspected Vessels
   Uninspected Vessels
   Domestic Vessel Policy
   Domestic Vessel General
   Domestic Vessel Links

Containers

Featured Homeport Links
- ESP Program
- NSP
- ITW
- Vessel Traffic Services
- US Inspected Vessels
- Marine Safety Center
- Licensing Customer Survey
- Anti-Piracy

Coast Guard Quick Links
- Vessel Documentation
- Ship Arrivals
- Navigation Center
- Master Licensing
- National Maritime Center
- U.S. Coast Guard
- Coast Guard Auxiliary
- C omit / FPSO (MISLE data)

Homeland Security

Domestic Vessels

Alternate Inspection Programs
- Alternate Compliance Program (ACP) - Marine Security Program (MSP) - Streamlined Inspection Program (SIP)

Domestic Vessel Tools
- FAQs, Job Ads, Forms

Inspected Vessels
- Passenger Vessels

Uninspected Vessels
- Commercial Fishing Vessels - Towing Vessels

Domestic Vessel Policy
- Craft Routinely Operated (CROD)
- 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)
- MSCP 1283

Domestic Vessel Links
- National Vessel Documentation Center
- USCG Marine Safety Center
- USCG Navigation Center
### Uninspected Vessels Topics

**Towing Vessels**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content Name</th>
<th>Last Modified</th>
<th>Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TC-AVO 001 Travel Time Report</strong></td>
<td>Tue, Oct 28, 2008</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Customer Survey</strong></td>
<td>Thu, Jun 25, 2009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Requirements for Uninspected Towing Vessels Guide Book</strong></td>
<td>Fri, Jun 12, 2009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Guide Book to assist UTV owners and operators comply with uninspected towing vessel regulations.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Towing Vessel Bridging Program</strong></td>
<td>Tue, Jul 20, 2009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Towing Vessel Bridging Program Outreach Materials</strong></td>
<td>Thu, Jul 30, 2009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The attached documents can be printed locally, used for outreach and education of industry and CG members.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 5, 2004, a significant regulatory project was 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-5631) 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 training 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 or (202) 372-1135.

Updated: Thursday, July 9, 2009 1:04 AM
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?