



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cal Maritime Unveils Spill Management Simulator
Technology will be incorporated into curriculum beginning this fall

VALLEJO, Calif., April 2, 2004 – The California Maritime Academy, a campus of The California State University, today announced the unveiling of its brand new, state-of-the art Spill Management Simulator. The simulator will be incorporated into Cal Maritime's continuing education programs beginning this fall, and will be introduced into the undergraduate programs the 2006/2007 academic year.

The unveiling of the Spill Management Simulator marks the first step in a multi-phased project that is part of Cal Maritime's visionary concept for the development of a world-class Simulation, Training, and Research Center. The goal of the center is to bring government, industry, and environmental stakeholders together in a partnership to protect the nation's natural resources. The center will provide a platform for government and academic researchers to advance the science of simulation and environmental protection.

Seattle-based Transas Marine U.S.A. developed the Spill Management Simulator under a contract with Cal Maritime from funds provided by the U.S. Coast Guard and the California Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response. The system integrates an electronic charting system, tidal current information, and topographical and street maps to run various simulation exercises in real-time. In addition to being used as a response and planning tool for marine spill management, the simulator has the ability to run simulation exercises for such emergencies as transit accidents, acts of terrorism, and threats to homeland security.

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“Our Spill Management Simulator represents the first stage in a unique partnership among an educational institution, community stakeholders, state and federal regulatory agencies, and technology providers,” said Bill Eisenhardt, president of Cal Maritime. “Cal Maritime is committed to becoming the premier exercise, training, and research facility for spill management and hydrographic research, and we’re well on our way.”

Eisenhardt added that Cal Maritime recently received an oil spill recovery vessel, which was provided by the National Response Corporation. The 110-foot vessel will provide another tool to assist the academy in training its students and industry participants in marine environmental clean up and recovery.

Currently the Spill Management Center is located in Cal Maritime’s Technology Center. However, Proposition 55, which was passed by California’s voters earlier this month, will fund a new \$8.3 million Simulation Center for the campus. Once built, the second floor of the Simulation Center will house a Crisis Management Center, in which the Spill Management Simulator will serve as the nucleus. The first floor of the Simulation Center will house radar, ship, cargo handling, and engineering simulators.

“We will have a new building with a new spill simulation center and an actual vessel out there for our students to practice what they learn on the simulators,” said Eisenhardt. “I hear of people traveling across the country for marine spill response training, but now they’ll have real-world training opportunities much closer to home.”

PISCES

The Potential Incident Simulation, Control and Evaluation System (*PISCES*), initially developed by Transas Marine as an exercise management tool for the U.S. Coast Guard, is the core of the Spill Management Simulator. Cal Maritime’s long-term relationship with Transas Marine will provide for continuous improvement and growth of the system and the capability of the facility through the development of new spill trajectory and environmental impact models, and additional geographic information databases.

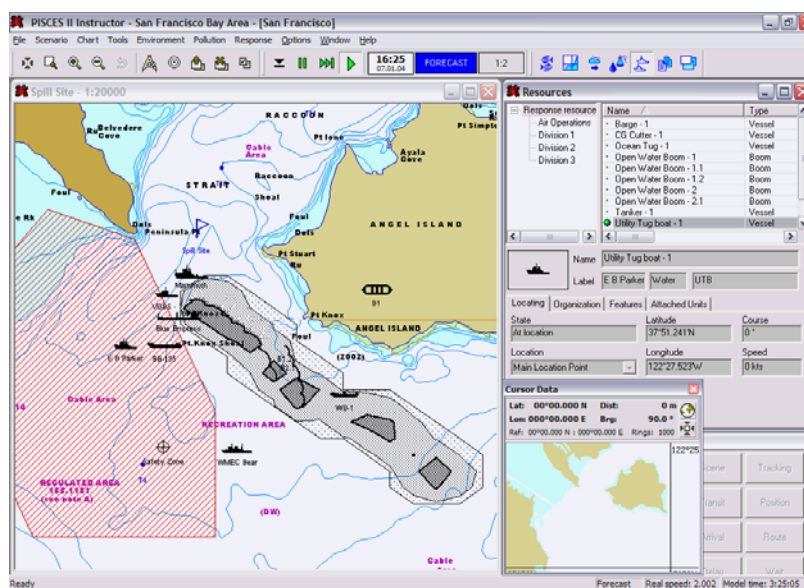
PISCES is commercially available software that is used by training specialists and spill response planners to develop realistic drills and exercises running in real-time. Dozens of exercises are conducted each year for state and federal agencies, vessel and terminal operators, and petroleum transportation companies.

About Cal Maritime

Cal Maritime, a campus of The California State University, is one of only seven degree-granting maritime academies in the United States, and the only one on the West Coast. Located in San Pablo Bay's Morrow Cove in Vallejo, Calif., Cal Maritime offers students four-year degrees in business administration, facilities engineering technology, global studies and maritime affairs, marine engineering technology, marine transportation, and mechanical engineering.

Cal Maritime's Department of Continuing Education offers professional courses for licensed and unlicensed mariners in addition to the programs being developed utilizing the Spill Management Simulator and the Academy's new response vessel. For more information about Cal Maritime, visit www.csum.edu.

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PISCES Desktop

Transas Marine has been tapped to deliver Cal Maritime's Spill Management Simulator due in part to its expertise involving modeling and simulation, and its record of development of unique software tools for incident response, data management, and visualization of resources and situation status. Transas Marine has already established a record of cooperation with government agencies through its development of software that integrates models developed by those agencies with Transas' PISCES software. The interface with NOAA's ALOHA program is one such example.