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CALIFORNIA MARITIME ACADEMY OFFERS ON-LINE TRAINING COURSE FOR MARITIME SECURITY AWARENESS

(Vallejo, CA – November 7, 2006)...The California Maritime Academy is now offering a web-based training program in *Maritime Security Awareness*. The new program is designed to fill the gap in required security training for support personnel, vendors, trucking operators and others who are regulated under the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002, Title 33 CFR Subchapter H, Parts 104.225 and 105.215. These regulations require maritime security awareness training for "other personnel" who provide logistics and specialized support to the maritime industry, and who have access inside the security perimeters of regulated maritime facilities and aboard vessels. The training of these groups had been identified as a major shortfall in implementation of effective, reasonable and workable security in California's multibillion dollar maritime industry and the new program is designed to meet that need.

Design of the Maritime Security Awareness program was supported and assisted by grant funding from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the California Governor's Office of Homeland Security, which have designated Cal Maritime as a center for education and training in this important field.

"Until now, port, vessel and facility operators were required to manage this portion of the maritime security program using their own resources and often had a limited ability to attain the compliance of their suppliers and contractors" said CAPT Bruce G. Clark, USCGR (ret), Cal Maritime's Director of Maritime Security Projects.

"Our new program provides a flexible alternative for delivering this critical training to the thousands of workers who require it without the commitments of time, labor and training normally required by traditional classroom training methods." The on-line training program addresses basic security awareness policies and procedures that are now uniformly in place within the port environment. These topics include:

- Familiarization with basic regulations
- Orientation for workers covering expectations for search and identification procedures for entry to regulated facilities and vessels
- Identification of suspicious circumstances, activities and events, and the appropriate notification procedures for these instances.

Registration for the course is available through the Cal Maritime Extended Learning web site at www.maritime-education.com or by calling (707) 654-1157. Once approved, access to the web-based course is available to the student at any time, from any PC terminal or wireless access. Cost is \$80.00 per person or \$75.00 per person for "sponsored" groups of five or more from the same organization, enrolling at the same time.

"It's impossible to overemphasize the importance of California's ports, not only to California but to national and international economies that depend on the reliability of goods that flow through California," said Chris Bertelli, Deputy Director with the California Office of Homeland Security. "Nearly half of the containerized cargo that arrives in the United States comes through California. This program will help provide an increased security and terrorism awareness capability needed to protect our ports. The California Maritime Academy and state university system have done a tremendous job in identifying and filling this need."

Academy President William B. Eisenhardt said "Cal Maritime has developed a strong reputation for leadership and innovation in the development and delivery of maritime security-related programs to our students, and to government agencies and maritime-related business and industry throughout the region as a part of our responsibility to the state and the nation."