

U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)

For over two centuries the U.S. Coast Guard has safeguarded our Nation's maritime interests in the heartland, in the ports, at sea, and around the globe. We protect the maritime economy and the environment, we defend our maritime borders, and we save those in peril. This history has forged our character and purpose as America's Maritime Guardian — *Always Ready* for all hazards and all threats. www.uscg.mil

America's Waterways Watch is a combined effort of the U.S. Coast Guard and its Reserve and Auxiliary components to enlist the active participation of those who live, work or play around America's waterfront areas. For more information, contact aww@uscg.mil visit <http://americaswaterwaywatch.uscg.mil>. To report suspicious activity call 877-24WATCH (877-249-2824).

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is the uniformed volunteer component of the United States Coast Guard. Created by an Act of Congress in 1939, the Auxiliary directly supports the Coast Guard in all missions, except military and law enforcement actions. The Auxiliary conducts safety patrols on local waterways, assist the Coast Guard with homeland security duties, teach boating safety classes, conduct free vessel safety checks for the public, as well as many other activities. The Auxiliary has members in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa and Guam. For more information, visit <http://www.cgaux.org/>.

U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Information eXchange ("CGMIX") makes U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) maritime information available on the public internet in the form of searchable databases. Much of the information on the CGMIX web site comes from the USCG's Marine Information for Safety and Law Enforcement (MISLE) information system. See <http://cgmix.uscg.mil/>.

The U.S. Coast Guard Navigation Center supports safe and efficient maritime transportation by delivering accurate and timely maritime information services and Global Position System (GPS) augmentation signals that permit high-precision positioning and navigation. See <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/>. For more information use the e-mail Inquiry located at http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/misc/NIS_contact_us.htm or call (703) 313-5900.

HOMEPORT is the primary on-line means of communicating alerts, announcements and other information from the Coast Guard field units to their partners, including industry partners. Homeport also provides public and protected community-of-interest chat and interactive information between partners. Specific Homeport Topics Include: Containers, Domestic Vessels (US Flag Vessels), Environmental, Facilities, Incident Management and Preparedness, Investigations (Maritime Casualties and Incidents), Marine Safety, Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) & Information Sharing (IS), Maritime Security, Merchant Mariners, Port State Control, Ports and Waterways, Regulations/Administrative Adjudications, Strategic Initiatives, USCG Sector (Field Unit) Directory, Vessel Standards, Counter Piracy, International Port Security (IPS) Program, Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA), Marine Safety Center, Mariner Credential Verification, and Mariner Credential Application Status. See <http://homeport.uscg.mil>.

USCG National Maritime Center (NMC) issues Merchant Mariner Credentials (MMC) to fully qualified US mariners, approves and audits training programs and courses offered by mariner training organizations throughout the United States, and provides information about merchant mariner records. For more information, see <http://www.uscg.mil/nmc> or contact NMC Customer Service Center: (888) IASKNMC (1-888-427-5662).

National Vessel Movement Center (NVMC) provides the maritime industry with a means to submit a Notice of Arrival and a Notice of Departure, which fulfills USCG and the Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) requirements. See <http://www.nvmc.uscg.gov> or contact the NVMC sans@nvmc.uscg.gov, (800) 708-9823 or (304) 264-2502.

Vessel Documentation (for US Flag Vessels) The National Vessel Documentation Center facilitates maritime commerce and the availability of financing while protecting economic privileges of United States citizens through the enforcement of regulations, and provides a register of vessels available in time of war or emergency to defend and protect the United States of America. See <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/nvdc/>. For more information call (800) 799-8362 or (304) 271-2400 (7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time).