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## **PORT MAINTAINS OPERATIONS—AMID INCREASED SECURITY**

The Port of Long Beach remained open and operational while imposing precautionary measures to ensure the security of its personnel and cargo ships following the vicious terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C.

“We took a proactive approach to maintain normal operations. Our chief concern is always for the safety of people working in the port, however, we also wanted to ensure that cargo continued to move smoothly,” said Richard D. Steinke, Port Executive Director.

Under a plan developed in conjunction with the U.S. Coast Guard, all arriving vessels are being directed to anchorages inside and outside of the Long Beach Breakwater where they undergo inspection. The Coast Guard is escorting departing vessels out of the port.

“The modifications that were made in operational procedures should be easily absorbed into the normal routine within the next days.”

Steinke emphasized that the security procedures were developed in a joint coordinated effort by the entire industry. “Shipping lines, terminal operators and truckers, all made appropriate adjustments to accommodate the changes in port operations. Based on what we have observed, the strategy is working. The impact of the additional security measures has been minimal.”

Terminal operators joined the port’s efforts by increasing security at their individual facilities. The security measures ranged from reducing the number of access gates to full formal identification procedures for truckers and visitors. Increased security procedures also were instituted at the Port Administration Building where all persons were required to show proof of identification for entry to the offices.

The Port of Long Beach is the destination for approximately 15 cargo ships daily. Last year almost \$100 billion in cargo moved through the Long Beach, one of the busiest ports in the world.

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