



## From the Bridge

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**T**hink for a moment about the shoes you're wearing, the coffee you drank this morning, or the television set in your living room. Did you know that these items probably made their way into your life through the Port of Long Beach?

On one of our boat tours, you can learn more about how the Port touches our everyday lives.

For instance, you may already know that the Port is one of the busiest seaports in the world. But did you know that the Port has the most aggressive environmental protection strategy of any seaport complex? Or that the Port is a major contributor to important community events like the July 4th fireworks and municipal band concerts?

The Port is truly a fascinating place to visit – and an exciting place to work. On pages 4 and 5 of this issue you can learn more about how our skilled port pilots bring massive container ships into the harbor, safely, every day.

Also in this issue, we've highlighted two of our many environmental programs: The successful Green Flag initiative (Page 8) and our efforts to create a cleaner-trucking system (featured to the right). And on Page 7, you can see some of the ways we are reaching out to the community.

But there's no better way to learn about the Port than through first-hand experience. I hope you'll join us for a tour.



The Port is developing incentive programs and other projects to limit truck pollution.

# Cleaner-Truck Projects Gain Momentum

**T**he Port of Long Beach and its partners in the San Pedro Bay Ports Clean Air Action Plan are working aggressively to reduce air pollution from the fleet of big-rig diesel trucks that serves the harbor area.

The recently adopted plan calls for the development of incentives and infrastructure projects to expand the use of cleaner, alternative-fuel vehicles.

"This is one of our toughest environmental challenges because truck drivers are largely self-employed, independent contractors," said Harbor Commission President James C. Hankla. "Still, we are using every tool at our disposal to ensure that trucks serving the harbor will be cleaner and less polluting."

The Port's efforts include:

- A facility to provide fuel and maintenance services for trucks that use natural gas.
- Expanding the harbor-wide fleet of natural gas vehicles.

- \$3 million in initial funding to help support the Gateway Cities Fleet Modernization Program, which helps independent truck drivers finance newer, cleaner-burning diesel-powered trucks.

- Incentives that would encourage drivers and trucking companies to invest in cleaner vehicles.

- Developing a dedicated, ongoing funding source for truck replacements and upgrades.

- Establishing a task force of industry and community stakeholders to help review and monitor a comprehensive cleaner-truck strategy.

The Clean Air Action Plan is a \$2-billion commitment to reduce air pollution from port-related sources by more than 45 percent in the next five years. It was developed with the participation of top federal, state and local environmental agencies.

To learn more, visit our web site at [www.polb.com](http://www.polb.com).