

Coastal Safety Committee Meeting

The Coastal Safety Committee held its Summer meeting in Las Vegas on June 9 -10. The meeting was attended by a record 34 representatives of 20 companies from Hawaii, to New Orleans, to New York! This operational diversity is one of the great strengths of the Coastal Safety Committee, providing members the opportunity share their responses to operational diversity and common challenges. Those challenges include training and assignment of the next generation of mariners. Attendees heard a presentation from Gregg Trunnell, Director of the Pacific Maritime Institute (PMI), located in Seattle, Washington. Gregg talked about its Workboat Academy, a fully accredited two year vocational program that prepares individuals to become a mate on towing or offshore supply vessels. Many AWO member companies including: Crowley Maritime; Dunlap Towing; Foss Maritime; K-Sea Transportation; and Western Towboat participate in the program and have hired its graduates. A copy of Gregg's presentation is posted on this Web site. Jill Russell, Operations Manager, PMI, then discussed a growing trend in the towing industry of using a full Mission Bridge Simulator, like the one at PMI and the Seaman's Church, as an assessment tool to evaluate captains and mates' performance and to assist in promotion decisions.

For interested individuals, the Pacific Maritime Institute will be holding a Two Day Safety Management system Workshop (Successful), which is presented by PMI and conducted by Dione Lee of QSE Solutions. If you would like more information, please contact Greg Trunnell at PMI, Toll-free: 888-893-7829

Continuing the theme of training, Captain Eric Knott, Assistant Manager, Safety and Training, Moran Towing Corporation, gave a talk on the challenges associated with [Electronic Charting and Information Systems Training and how these challenges are addressed in the United Kingdom](#). Finally, Captain Scott Powell, Assistant Professor, California Maritime Academy, discussed Changing the Teaching Paradigm to fit the learning needs of a new generation of mariners. Captain Powell's presentation also talked about information overload, bridge layout and management. Interestingly, the most important message for our mariners from Captain Powell's presentation is "just look out the window!"

Following the first day's meeting, the Committee enjoyed a cocktail reception jointly sponsored by Allied Transportation; American Marine; Dann Ocean Towing; Vane Brothers Towing Company; Western Towboat. Attendees then joined together to enjoy a social dinner at Diego's Mexican Restaurant located in the hotel.

The meeting continued on June 10, with a Strategic Dialogue session designed to assess member's views on the Future of Safety in AWO. This Strategic Dialogue Session asked Committee members to consider how AWO should go about fulfilling the vision of AWO 21, Goal 2, that asks the question, "what does it mean to be a safety leader today?" This is a

continuation of the discussion begun at the AWO Fall Convention, continuing at the Interregion Safety Committee, and later this month at the Responsible Carrier Program Accreditation Board meeting. This input will provide vital information to the Future of Safety Working Group, which will be organized in the coming months to consider what it means to successfully “Lead and support members in continuously improving safety, security and environmental stewardship.

The Meeting concluded with a “Lesson Learned” on Line Handling, a Review of Recent RCP Changes, Online Training Successes from Moxie Media, Safety Performance Goals for 2010 and a Review of Subcommittee Work and Future Projects.

The Committee will next meet in New Orleans, in January 2011, in conjunction with the Interregion Safety Committee and Southern Region Annual Meeting. For more information, please contact, Bob Clinton at 703-841-9300, bclinton@vesselalliance.com