

Coast Guard-AWO Safety Partnership
Working Group

On

Crew Endurance

September 26, 2007

Background

Under the auspices of the Coast Guard-AWO Safety Partnership (currently formalized in a MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AND THE AMERICAN WATERWAYS OPERATORS REGARDING THEIR QUALITY PARTNERSHIP), the Coast Guard and AWO have worked together to promote crew alertness in the 24-hour-a-day environment of the tugboat, towboat, and barge industry since 1999. Since that time, the Coast Guard and AWO have collaborated in the development and roll-out of the Crew Alertness Campaign and Stay Alert for Safety brochure, conducted research into the application of the Crew Endurance Management System (CEMS) to the barge and towing industry, and worked together to educate AWO member companies on CEMS principles.

Since the establishment of the formal CEMS program, more than 130 organizations now have trained CEMS coaches on staff and over 1600 coaches have been certified throughout the United States and internationally. However, companies are at very different stages of CEMS implementation, with only a limited number of companies implementing the process completely and continuously. In the meantime, high-profile issues related to fatigue and the human element, including travel time, watchstanding requirements and hours of service, have been voiced as concerns to Congress, AWO and the Coast Guard, and the linkage between these issues and CEMS needs to be explored and clarified. CEMS can be leveraged to address these and other human element issues faced by the AWO membership and the rest of the maritime industry.

Objective

At the Coast Guard –AWO Safety Partnership National Quality Steering Committee (QSC) meeting on August 1, 2007, the QSC agreed that the Coast Guard-AWO working group should be reconvened to refresh our collective vision of the future of CEMS and its linkage to such issues as travel time, watchstanding, and work hours; develop a marketing plan to promote that vision; support industry implementation of CEMS consistent with the vision; and develop metrics for measuring the effectiveness of CEMS.

Team Members: Dave Brown, Ingram Barge Company
Bob Clinton, AWO
Ron Corigliano, Campbell Transportation Company
Ken Davidson, American Commercial Lines
Tom Elkowitz, Penn Maritime, Inc.
Jim Farley, Kirby Inland Marine, LP
George Foster, JB Marine Service
Jim Gillen, Crowley Marine Services
Chuck King, Buffalo Marine Service
LCDR Vivianne Louie, CG-3PSE-1
Jo Ann Salyers, Salyers Solutions
Bill Stewart, MEMCO Barge Line
Paul Swensen, Moran Towing Corporation

Timeline

The working group will hold its first meeting in November 2007. The group will provide a report to the Coast Guard-AWO National Quality Steering Committee and the AWO Executive Committee at their February 2008 meetings.

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