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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN

[MSIB # 02- 08]

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ANCHORAGE MANAGEMENT

The Captain of the Port Sector Delaware Bay reminds all port operators of regulations, recommendations and systems that are currently in place that support efficient and effective management of the federal anchorages within the COTP Zone. Your compliance is strongly encouraged.

Anchorages in the Delaware Bay and River are federally regulated as per 33 CFR 110.157. Sector Delaware Bay MSIB 18-07 was issued in September 2007 outlining the length of time a vessel may anchor for, and the process to request an extended anchorage permit. Any questions on this process should be addressed to the Sector Delaware Bay Waterways Management staff at 215-271-4889 or the 24 hour Command center at 215-271-4807.

The Mariners' Advisory Committee for the Bay and River Delaware (MAC) has provided recommendations for anchorage usage. These recommendations attempt to facilitate efficient usage of Anchorage 7 (Marcus Hook) and Anchorage 9 (Mantua Creek). These advisories may be found at <http://www.macdelriv.org/TRANSIT.html> and it is strongly encouraged that all operators familiarize themselves with them.

Lastly, the Maritime Exchange for the Delaware River and Bay has a vessel reporting system that allows for the tracking of vessel movement and can provide commercial traffic a snapshot of where other vessels currently are within the port. This vessel reporting system is outlined in the US Coast Pilot #3, Chapter 6. It recommends that vessels report their position and status to the Maritime Exchange over VHF-FM Channel 14 when they anchor, get underway, pass through Marcus Hook, enter and exit the C&D Canal, and when they make fast to a dock. It also requests that tugs with barges report to the Exchange when they anchor and weigh anchor from any anchorage. The COTP strongly supports this endeavor and asks that all mariners participate in this system.

Your support of the Coast Guard, the MAC and the Maritime Exchange and our maritime safety/ port operations mission is invaluable and we look forward to our continued inter-agency cooperation and coordination.

D. L. SCOTT
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port