



PORTCORPUSCHRISTI

MEDIA ADVISORY

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PORT CORPUS CHRISTI EXPANDS ITS ENVIROMENTAL CERTIFICATION

“Public Cargo Docks and Laydown Areas are now Part of it”

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX - Port Corpus Christi (PCC) has gone beyond the boundaries of expectation in its Environmental Management System Program yet again. Not only has Port Corpus Christi maintained its ISO 14001 Certification of our Environmental Management System at its Maintenance and Bulk Terminal Facilities, but with the help of our port users and stevedores we have expanded the ISO 14001 Certification to the Public Cargo Docks and Laydown Areas.

In January 2004, Port Corpus Christi developed and implemented an Environmental Management System (EMS) through a Port EMS Assistance Project. It was a partnership effort with American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Global Environment & Technology Foundation (GETF) for eleven ports to develop an EMS modeled after the ISO 14001 Standard. An Environmental Management System is a systematic approach to managing environmental issues that ensures that all environmental aspects of our operations are considered and managed and allows continual improvement year after year. ISO 14001 certification is an internationally recognized standard for environmental management. The development and implementation took two years to complete and since that time PCCA has been maintaining an award-winning EMS program.

When the Port began its EMS program, port-operated facilities were selected for its fence line, to include the Bulk Terminal and the Maintenance Facility. These facilities are not geographically adjacent, but PCCA personnel operate each of them. The Bulk Terminal consists of Bulk Dock #1, Bulk Dock #2, a public storage pad, and a maintenance facility. It is located on the north side of the Tule Lake Channel in the Inner Harbor. Coal, ore, minerals, and other dry bulk commodities can be discharged directly from vessels to railcars or trucks at Bulk Dock #1. This facility can also be used to load vessels when special handling is required. Coal, petroleum coke, and other dry bulk

commodities can be loaded directly to vessels from bottom dump railcars, dump trucks, or storage at Bulk Dock #2.

The Maintenance Facility consists of several buildings, open storage, hazardous and non-hazardous waste storage areas, a vehicle and equipment fueling area, and a covered vehicle and equipment wash area. Vehicle and equipment maintenance and repairs occur inside the buildings. Maintenance personnel are also responsible for janitorial services to all port facilities and grounds maintenance on all PCCA properties including some leased properties. The Maintenance fleet includes gasoline-, diesel- and propane-powered tractors and associated lawn equipment, front-end loaders, dump trucks, cranes, and forklifts.

To expand the EMS fence line, PCCA reached out past our own operations to port users and stevedores at the Public Cargo Docks to partner on environmental stewardship. The fence line for the Port's EMS Program has now expanded and includes Public Cargo Docks 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, and 15 and the six laydown areas associated with these cargo docks on the north and south sides of the Corpus Christi Ship Channel. Our partnership with the port users and stevedores means goals for reductions in spills and electrical consumption resulting in a reduction in the environmental footprint in the future. *"The port is very proud of the advances we have made related to improving our environmental footprint. With this new certification, the Port will continue to find new partners in this endeavor of environmental stewardship while continuing to be the economic engine for the region."* Said John LaRue, Executive Director.

The primary economic engine of the Coastal Bend, Port Corpus Christi is one of the 10 largest ports in the United States in total tonnage. The Port's mission statement is to "serve as a regional economic development catalyst while protecting and enhancing its existing industrial base and simultaneously working to diversify its international maritime cargo business." Strategically located on the western Gulf of Mexico, with a straight, 45' deep channel, the Port provides quick access to the Gulf and the entire United States inland waterway system. The Port delivers outstanding access to overland transportation with on-site and direct connections to three Class-1 railroads and uncongested interstate and state highways. The Port is protected by a state-of-the-art security department and an award-winning Environmental Management System. With outstanding management and operations staff, Port Corpus Christi is clearly *"More Than You Can Sea."*

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