



**31-01**

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**August 10, 2001**

- ◆ The Coast Guard has extended the comment period on the proposed changes to the 1994 National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program ("PREP") until October 3, 2001. Reference Docket Number USCG-2000-7514 on all correspondence, and send comments to the Docket Management Facility [USCG-2000-7514], U.S. Department of Transportation, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street SW, Washington, DC 20590-0001. You can fax your comments to the DMF at 1-202-493-2251, or submit them on-line at <http://dms.dot.gov>. The 2001 Draft Revisions to the PREP Guidelines can be found on line at [www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/nmc/response/PREP\\_GLNS\\_Rev\\_25Jun.pdf](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/nmc/response/PREP_GLNS_Rev_25Jun.pdf), and address issues such as government-initiated unannounced drills and equipment deployment exercises. ***We encourage all of our members to review the proposed revisions to the PREP guidelines, and submit comments accordingly! We've often discussed the importance of private sector spill contractors remaining viable between incidents. Enforcement of the PREP guidelines is one way to help ensure that the readiness of the private sector is not diminished by the declining number of oil spills occurring in the U.S. With increased enforcement - which would presumably lead to an increase in the number of response and deployment exercises – response organizations would have much more opportunity to become involved in these exercises TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL PARTIES. The plan holder would be able to demonstrate compliance with the PREP guidelines, responders would be able to exercise their response resources and generate some revenue, and the increased level of overall preparedness equates to better protection of the environment. Win-win, if we do say so ourselves.***

◆ ***In other Coast Guard-related news . . .***

- 1.) The Chemical Transportation Advisory Committee ("CTAC") and its subcommittees will meet in September at the U.S. Coast Guard headquarters in Washington, DC to discuss various issues relating to the marine transportation and materials in bulk. The meetings are open to the public. The CTAC will meet on September 13, 2001 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. EDT in Room 2415, and the Subcommittee on Hazardous Substances Response Standards will meet on September 12 from 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. EDT in Suite 1000 at the National Pollution Funds Center, 4200 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia. ***This Subcommittee will discuss the final development of recommendations to the Coast Guard concerning protocols for emergency chemical response.*** More information on these meetings can be obtained by contacting CDR James Michalowski at 1-202-267-1217.

2.) The U.S. Coast Guard's William M. Benkert Environmental Award Program cycle has started, and several new improvements have been made to increase participation, interest, and ease in the application process. Briefly, two new categories have been added: one for foreign flag/owned vessel operators and one for very small "mom and pop" sized companies who may not have the time or resources to prepare a full application. The Coast Guard has also gone to a three-tier award system to recognize levels of excellence – not just one first place finisher. This will allow multiple winners at the various award levels. They have also included the standards used to evaluate applications and examples for past winning entities. More

information on the award program can be obtained by contacting CDR George Burns at 1-202-267-0421, or by visiting [www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/benkert.pdf](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/benkert.pdf) and [www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/pmbrochure.pdf](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/pmbrochure.pdf).

- 3.) **REMINDER:** The Coast Guard is seeking applications for appointment to membership on the CTAC. The applications are due by October 1, 2001, and can be requested by writing Commandant (G-MSO-3), U.S. Coast Guard, 2100 Second Street SW, Washington, DC, 20593-0001; by calling 1-202-267-1217/0081; or by faxing 1-202-267-4570. The application form is also available on-line at <http://dms.dot.gov> and at [www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/advisory/ctac/ctac.htm](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/advisory/ctac/ctac.htm). For additional information, contact CTAC's Executive Director CDR James Michalowski or his assistant, Sara Ju, at the numbers provided above.
- 4.) The Coast Guard is seeking applications for membership on the National Offshore Safety Advisory Committee, which provides advice and makes recommendations to the Coast Guard on matters affecting the offshore industry. Applications are due by September 30, 2001, and should be sent to Commandant (G-MSO-2), U.S. Coast Guard, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001. Copies of the application form are available on line at [www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/advisory/index.htm](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/advisory/index.htm), or by calling Capt. M.W. Brown at 1-202-267-1181.
- 5.) The Coast Guard is also seeking applications for appointment to membership on the Houston/Galveston Navigation Safety Advisory Committee, which provides advice and makes recommendations to the agency on matters relating to the safe navigation of vessels to and from the Ports of Galveston, Houston, and Texas City, and throughout Galveston Bay, Texas. All applications must be postmarked no later than October 15, 2001. Applications are available on line at [www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/advisory/hogansac/hogan.htm](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/advisory/hogansac/hogan.htm), and should be sent to Commanding Officer, ATTN: HOGANSAC Executive Secretary, USCG VTS Houston/Galveston, 9640 Clinton Drive, Houston, Texas, 77029. More information can be obtained by contacting CDR Pete Simmons at 1-713-671-5164.
- 6.) Before departing for his "extended" vacation in Texas, President Bush signed into law the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2001. Among other things, the Act appropriates an additional \$92 million for the Coast Guard's operating expenses for the current fiscal year.

(Sources: *Federal Register and Maritime Items*)

- ♦ **Work/Life/Health:** Monitoring employee behavior in the workplace is an important aspect of every manager's job. It is a much greater challenge to monitor their actions when these employees are representing the company outside the immediate workplace – whether it be at a client's site, conference, or other company sanctioned function. Here are some things you can do to prevent and correct inappropriate behavior: (1.) Remind employees that the company's rules for discipline and behavior in the workplace also apply when they are representing the company off-site. (2.) Appeal to the employees' self esteem and sense of duty. (3.) Conduct an investigation of any alleged improprieties before taking action. (4.) Evaluate the seriousness of the behavior. (5.) Consider only job-related facts. (6.) Research how similar behavior was disciplined in the past. (7.) Find out whether any other employees participated in the behavior. (8.) Redistribute and review the company's behavior policies. (Source: *Manager's Legal Bulletin*)
- ♦ **Quote of the Week:** "The nerve that never relaxes, the eye that never blanches, the thought that never wanders, the purpose that never wavers - these are the masters of victory." -- Edmund Burke (1729-1797)