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April 12, 2002

- ◆ We learned this week that Tim Hickin has decided to leave the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency after a fifteen year career with them. As you may know, SCAA has worked closely with Tim on the Inland Spills Conference over the years, and we want to wish him well in his future endeavors.
- ◆ The Office of Homeland Security ("OHLS") and the U.S. Department of Transportation are seeking feedback from the maritime industry on the new Office of Homeland Security Advisory System. More specifically, they would like feedback on the following questions: (1.) What do you think of the OHLS system? (2.) What do you think of the Coast Guard Maritime Security ("MARSEC") Levels? (3.) What do you think of our proposed approach to integrate the Coast Guard system with the OHLS system? (4.) What other concerns do you have, such as other systems proposed by other agencies? Comments and/or input should be sent to the Coast Guard no later than April 22, 2002, and directed to CDR Mike Rand of the Coast Guard's Port Security Directorate. His e-mail address is Mrand@comdt.uscg.mil, and telephone number 1-202-267-6853. If you need a copy of the OHLS Advisory System, the Coast Guard's MARSEC levels, and/or the proposed approach to integrate the two systems, contact us at 1-313-849-2649, or send e-mail to mikes@scaa-spill.org. (*Our thanks to Capt. Glenn Wiltshire for providing us with this notice!*)
- ◆ ***Speaking of the Coast Guard . . .*** President Bush has forwarded the following Coast Guard-related nominations to the Senate for advice and consent: (1.) VADM Thad Allen to be Chief of Staff. (2.) RADM Thomas Barrett to be promoted to VADM and to be Vice Commandant. (3.) RADM James Hull to be promoted to VADM and to be Commander, Atlantic Area. (4.) RADM Terry Cross to be promoted to VADM and to be Commander, Pacific Area. (Source: *Maritime Items*)
- ◆ You may recall that in October 2001, someone shot a hole in the trans-Alaska pipeline. The result was the spill of 286,000 gallons of crude oil. While the cleanup is now finally nearing completion, the total cost of the response is approaching \$20 million, according to the Alyeska Pipeline Services Company. Of that, some \$6 million was for labor costs, and another \$6 million for the treatment and recovery of crude collected from the contaminated soil. The remaining amount went toward equipment and remote camp costs. Officials have said that about 176,000 gallons of crude have been recovered and reinserted into the pipeline, while an

estimated 1,000 gallons remains trapped in the gravel comprising the pipeline's access road. (Source: *AP*)

- ◆ After an extended delay, the U.S. Coast Guard is now getting close to issuing its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking with regard to Salvage and Marine Firefighting Requirements for tank vessels. The draft NPRM is now in the hands of the Office of Management and Budget, which has 60 days to either approve it or send it back for revisions. (Source: *Maritime Items*)
- ◆ The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will host a two-day public forum aimed at exploring the role of science within the agency on May 1-2, 2002. The event will take place on the

concourse level of the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C., and will run from 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. each day. Called “EPA Science Forum 2002: Meeting the Challenges”, the event will feature plenary sessions on Science to Achieve Environmental Outcomes, Environmental Indicators, Safe Water, Air Quality, and Protecting our Health: Susceptible Populations. For more information, contact Dave Ryan at 1-202-564-7827, e-mail ryan.dave@epa.gov, or visit the Science Forum 2002 website at www.epa.gov/ord/scienceforum. Registration for this event is free, and can be completed on line. (Source: AP)

- ◆ **Did you know?** The Maritime Administration is providing anti-terrorism insurance to commercial vessels that operate in areas that private insurance companies won’t touch – the Middle East and the Indian Ocean off Pakistan. In addition, private insurers are beginning to deny terrorism coverage for U.S. port facilities. Companies in a number of industries – such as transportation, manufacturing, real estate and insurance – have joined the new Coalition to Insure Against Terrorism, which is now urging Congress to create a federal terrorism insurance plan, involving financial guarantees to insurance companies that agree to write coverage at affordable rates. (Source: *HazMat Transport News*)
- ◆ It’s been more than six months since the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center, and it’s still nearly impossible to estimate just how big the final bill will be for what is the costliest insured catastrophe ever. Property Claims Services estimates \$16.6 billion in insured losses and 74,000 separate claims thus far, and the group concedes that many companies have yet to file full claims because they are unsure of their losses and/or their records were lost in the aftermath of the attacks. Moreover, the cost of the litigation that will surely arise in the future is inestimable. (Source: *Lloyd’s List*)
- ◆ As we are all aware, the Coast Guard has been on a high state of alert since September 11. The agency is now set to commence a three-year program to increase its size and capability to enable the service to handle the national heightened security profile. Through budget allocations, the Coast Guard will be able to operate at the necessary security levels – with about 27% of their budgeted service capability focused on ports, waterways and coastal security as opposed to 14% last year. The Coast Guard’s workforce will grow this year and for the next three years, and the agency is actively encouraging retired officers and enlisted members to rejoin. (Source: *Lloyd’s List*)
- ◆ **Correction:** In last weeks’ edition of the newsletter, we briefly talked about the QI panel discussion that was had during the Annual Meeting last month. From Edward F. Travers & Associates, Eddie Travers and Tom Scranton were on the panel, and not Kevin Mabin as reported. ***Our apologies for the error!***
- ◆ **Work/Life/Health:** For employees that spend most of their time at work in front of a computer, encourage them to drink a lot of water. The benefit? Employees will likely take more restroom breaks. Eye experts recommend taking frequent breaks during extensive computer use, but some employees get caught up in their work and simply forget. Bathroom breaks give computer users time to rest their eyes and stretch their legs. (Source: *Manager’s Legal Bulletin*)
- ◆ **Quote of the Week:** “Ordinary people believe only in the possible. Extraordinary people visualize not what is possible or probable, but rather what is impossible. And by visualizing the impossible, they begin to see it as possible.” – Cherie Carter-Scott, American Author, Trainer, and Speaker