



Hankla Honored for Clean Air Action Plan Leadership

Commissioner to receive CALSTART Blue Sky Innovation Award

August 27, 2007

Long Beach Harbor Commissioner James C. Hankla has been named the 2007 Charles R. Imbrecht Blue Sky Innovation Award recipient by CALSTART, North America's leading clean transportation technologies consortium.

Hankla, who served as commission president from July 2006 to June 2007, is being recognized for his and the Commission's leadership in the creation and implementation of the San Pedro Bay Ports Clean Air Action Plan in conjunction with the Port of Los Angeles. The Clean Air Action Plan was adopted in November 2006.

The CAAP is a sweeping strategy to dramatically reduce the amount of cargo-related emissions at the two ports. The five-year plan is designed to cut harmful diesel particulates by 50 percent and smog-forming nitrogen oxides by 45 percent.

The Blue Sky Innovation Awards honor outstanding contributions to clean air, energy efficiency and clean transportation. CALSTART is the California operating division of WestStart-CALSTART, a nonprofit organization of more than 145 companies and agencies dedicated to advancing clean transportation technologies. The group's goals include cleaner air, decreased dependence on foreign oil, reducing global warming and creating jobs.

CALSTART President and CEO John Boesel said Hankla and the Port of Long Beach are being recognized for infusing new, sustainable technology into the goods movement industry and providing an example for seaports around the world.

"Mr. Hankla and the Port of Long Beach are aggressively addressing the pollution issues that challenge both of our country's busiest ports by requiring new technology," Boesel said. "This action matches the award's vision: taking clean and sustainable transportation products to the marketplace."

Hankla will formally receive the award at the 2007 Blue Sky Awards luncheon on Sept. 6, on the campus of Caltech in Pasadena. Blue Sky Award winners are selected by a panel of environmental and industry leaders, including members of the Natural Resources Defense Council, the American Lung Association of California and the Union of Concerned Scientists.

Hankla, a former Long Beach City Manager, was named to the Commission in 2003.

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