News Release

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Managing Director in Line as No. 2 Executive

Board to Vote on Lytle as Top Deputy/Chief Operating Officer

March 7, 2008

Port of Long Beach Executive Director Richard D. Steinke announced Friday, March 7, he is recommending the appointment of J. Christopher Lytle, the Port's Managing Director of Trade Relations and Port Operations, to the position of Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer.

As Deputy Executive Director, Lytle would be the Port's No. 2 executive. Steinke's recommendation will go to the Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners for a vote at the Port governing board's regularly scheduled meeting Monday, March 10. The position of Deputy has been vacant since Kevin Eldridge left the Port for personal reasons nearly a year ago.

Since September 2006, Lytle has served as a Managing Director, overseeing the Port's Trade Relations and Port Operations Bureau, which includes the Communications, Trade Relations, Security and Maintenance divisions.

"Chris has decades of maritime industry experience that is extremely valuable to us at the Port of Long Beach," Steinke said. "In addition, he has experience in heading up our community outreach, security upgrades and port maintenance programs."

As a former vice president with the French-based shipping line, CMA CGM, Lytle was responsible for the company's entire West Coast operations, including significant marine and terminal operations at the Port of Long Beach and similar operations in Oakland, Tacoma and Seattle. He has also held executive positions at P&O Ports North America, Sea-Land Service, Inc. and the Denmark-based APM (Maersk) Terminals.

Lytle holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Puget Sound and a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Central Washington University.

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