



News Release

Port Dedicates New Security Headquarters

\$21 million Command and Control Center to serve as regional resource

February 9, 2009

Port officials and other dignitaries on Monday, February 9, 2009, officially opened the Port of Long Beach Command and Control Center, which will serve as the Port's Security Division headquarters and as a coordination and communications hub for security agencies that protect the harbor complex.

The \$21-million facility, designed and built to "silver-level" Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards, represents the Port's commitment to state-of-the-art security technology and operational techniques.

To better coordinate security operations, the center includes offices for the various local and federal agencies and maritime organizations that make up the multi-jurisdictional system that protects the harbor complex.

"We have one of the most innovative security operations of any seaport in the United States, and this Command and Control Center further adds to our ability to provide the best possible protection," said Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners President James C. Hankla.

Safety and security are top priorities at the Port of Long Beach, which is always updating its plan for continued business operations in the event of an emergency. It is estimated that a shutdown of the Port complex would cost the U.S. economy about \$1 billion a day.

In recent years, in addition to the new Security Center, the Port has added Harbor Patrol Officers, started a well-equipped Harbor Patrol Dive Team, introduced the latest in surveillance cameras[CW1] throughout the harbor and optimized communications by bringing a high-speed fiber-optic network to the Port. The Security Division and its director, Cosmo Perrone, have become recognized leaders in maritime security in the United States.

The 25,000 square-foot security center houses the Port's Security Division and serves as a base for the Harbor Patrol. A "maritime domain awareness[CW2] room" within the Command and Control Center can combine and display on screens and computers all the surveillance and monitoring data from throughout the Port, providing the security team with views of all Port facilities. About 125 people will work at the building. A helipad caps the three-story structure.

Partner agencies that have offices at the Command and Control Center include the Coast Guard, Customs and Border Protection, Long Beach Police Department, Port of Los Angeles, and Marine Exchange of Southern California. These agencies have long worked in close cooperation to secure the Port's cargo, terminals, roadways and waterways.

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