



News Release

Port Wins Awards for Communications Content, special events, executive honored by CAPIO

April 23, 2009



The Port of Long Beach once again earned the top statewide award for its community newsletter, re:Port, and several other honors for newsletters, videos and special events at the "Excellence in Communication" awards hosted recently by the California Association of Public Information Officials (CAPIO).

CAPIO's top individual honor – the Paul B. Clark Award – went to Port of Long Beach Director of Communications and Community Relations Heather Morris, for "outstanding service to the public and her profession."

Morris, who joined the Port in 2005, has 30 years of experience in public relations and government communications. She built a career devoted to civic engagement – the idea that the public should be provided with opportunities and information for involvement in their government. Having begun her career in parks, recreation and community services, she moved to communications and public information to build systems that give the public a voice. She has won national acclaim for innovations in strategic planning, crisis communications, video production, special events and electronic media.

"Heather is an exceptional person and well deserving of this award," said CAPIO President Jenny Peterson. "She has done so much for this organization and this profession that she was an obvious choice."

The Port earned a first-place award for community or external newsletters for its quarterly "re:Port" publication that is distributed throughout Long Beach. The publication, produced by the Port's Communications Division, profiles Port environmental, security and community engagement projects. It is the second year in a row, and the third time in the past four years, that re:Port has earned the 1st Place

honor from CAPIO.

The Port also earned received honors for its Green Port Fest, the Port's annual community gala offering tours and dozens of interactive displays, its "Pulse of the Port" video show which airs on the city's Channel 8, via www.polb.com and YouTube, and for oPORTunities, the Port's employee publication.

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