

PORT AND SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT

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STEPPING UP SECURITY

New security card program for Port of Green Bay is on its way

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(Green Bay) – More than 300 workers who have access to secure areas of the Port of Green Bay will soon undergo thorough criminal, immigration and terrorist screening checks to obtain their Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) security card. The identification card program, run by the Transportation Security Administration, is designed to enhance security at the nation's ports.

“We are not certain when the ID program will be implemented for the Port of Green Bay but we welcome programs that will help provide a more secure port,” stated Dean Haen, Manager for the Port of Green Bay. “We have been receiving a lot of information from the Transportation Security Administration and other ports across the country have begun implementing the program.”

The security program utilizes a biometric ID card that includes a photo, bar code and a computer chip that contains background information and fingerprints of the cardholder. These cards will be required for any port personnel who have unescorted access to secure areas of the nation's 3,200 ports and marine facilities, including the Port of Green Bay. “The security cards will be a universal way of identifying industry personnel across the country,” Haen stated.

Although the timeline for Green Bay is not definite, Haen is already planning. “A lot of people will need to enroll and be screened,” Haen commented. “This is going to be a big undertaking.”

(more)

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The U. S. Coast Guard will be making sure that all policies and procedures of the program are being followed. “As with any new program, I’m sure there will be some initial issues that will need to be worked out,” Haen stated. “We will work closely with the Coast Guard and port personnel until the program is fully implemented.”

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