



# The Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System

# PORTS®



## NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY



Internet: <http://co-ops.nos.noaa.gov/> (select PORTS)

Voice Data Response: 866-21-PORTS

The Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System (PORTS®) is a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Ocean Service partnership program designed to provide the maritime community with high quality, real-time oceanographic and meteorological data. PORTS® is a decision support tool which improves the safety and efficiency of maritime commerce, assists coastal resource management, and aids recreational boaters.

Funding for the initial installation of this system was provided by NOAA as part of a demonstrations project to illustrate the usefulness of real-time information to promote safe navigation. The system was declared operational in July 1996. NOAA continued to fund the system operation until July 1998 at which time NOAA entered into an agreement with the Maritime Association of Port of New York/New Jersey (MAPONY/NJ) for the operation and maintenance of the system. MAPONY/NJ obtains funds from the State of New York and the State of New Jersey. Under the agreement the funds are transferred to NOAA who manages the operation and maintenance PORTS® with assistance from on-site contractors.



**For Further Information Contact:**  
Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services  
NOAA/National Ocean Service  
[ports@mail.nos.noaa.gov](mailto:ports@mail.nos.noaa.gov)  
301-713-2981

NOAA's contributions to this partnership include the development of national PORTS<sup>®</sup> standards, technical support and oversight of the design, installation and operation of PORTS<sup>®</sup>, and data quality control. In addition, NOAA continues to develop, test, and evaluate new sensors, data collection, and data telemetry systems that enhance real-time measurement capabilities.

The PORTS<sup>®</sup> includes four water level measurement systems, three of which are equipped with meteorological sensors, one bottom-mounted current profiler and one stand-alone meteorological station. Information is collected from each sensor every six minutes by a centralized data acquisition system located at the USCG Vessel Traffic Service located at Governors Island, New York. NOAA's Continuously Operational Real-Time Monitoring System (CORMS), located in Silver Spring, Maryland, provides 24 hours/day, 7 days/week quality control of the data to ensure that only accurate, reliable information is disseminated to users.. The real-time information is provided to users via local graphics displays, Internet, and through a telephone voice data response system.

The New York/New Jersey PORTS<sup>®</sup> is an invaluable tool that supports a wide range of needs, including marine navigation, coastal resource protection, and recreational activities. The NOAA New York/New Jersey PORTS<sup>®</sup> internet site receives over 25,000 visits per month.

