To Request an APAT visit, contact
Maritime Administration
Director, Office of Security
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Subject: <u>Information Paper - Anti-Piracy Assistance Team (APAT)</u>

1. **<u>Executive Issues:</u>**
- US Maritime Administration, with assistance from Military Sealift Command, has developed an assistance team to visit US flagged merchant ships in port to assess their physical security vulnerabilities to piracy and provide the ships with "best practices" against piracy.
  - ➢ Provides:
    - o positive engagement with civilian industry.
    - o forum for best practices exchange.
  - ➢ Helps posture civilian industry for success against piracy.
    - o On-site assessment of potential vulnerabilities (checklist driven). Report only to ship or Company. Company decides how to address.
    - o Best practices vetted and updated. Team shares what it knows and collects any practices the ship/Company wants to share.
  - ➢ Key players:
    - o APAT members
      - ▪ US Maritime Administration.
      - ▪ Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS).
    - o Assistance
      - ▪ Military Sealift Command
      - ▪ FLETC

2. **<u>Discussion:</u>**
- The Maritime Administration has developed 3-person assessment teams to visit US flagged ships in port, assess their physical vulnerabilities using checklist-driven inspection, and share anti-piracy "best practices" with ship.
  - ➢ APAT available upon request to the Administration…not a mandatory inspection.
  - ➢ The Check List and "best practices" will be provided in advance of the APAT team visit to the Company Security Officer (CSO) or a senior company Operations Officer.
  - ➢ The visit will last approximately 1-2 hours. At the end of the visit the team will debrief the master and CSO on vulnerabilities found.
  - ➢ The team will conduct a thorough analysis of findings and develop recommendations to mitigate the vulnerabilities found. The report of findings and recommendations will be provided to the CSO. APAT normally visits one ship per company fleet with operator security officer ("train the trainer").
  - ➢ Maritime Administration (team lead) and Naval Criminal Investigative Service's Security Training and Assessment Team (STAAT) representatives comprise team.
    - o Team governance provided by Steering Group consisting of the Maritime Administration, NCIS, and MSC (representing USTC equities).
  - ➢ Team training conducted in conjunction with Maersk Lines Limited Company Security Officer aboard two Maritime Administration Ready Reserve Force ships.
  - ➢ First commercial ship boarding done 5 Feb 09 aboard American President's Line ship President Jackson, in company with the lines' Director of Operations.

➢ Maritime Administration now coordinating requests for APAT visits from other Operating Companies.

3. **<u>Recommendation/ or Conclusions:</u>**
- Companies interested in Anti-Piracy Assistance Team (APAT) visit should contact Owen Doherty, Maritime Administration Director of Security at 202-366-1883 or via email at owen.doherty@dot.gov.
- Maritime Administration will provide for information on Best Practices and Checklist to Company Security Officers requesting assistance, for pre-visit assessment.
- Identify team members and schedule assistance visit with the company Security Officer.
- Execute visit and provide report of findings and recommendations to company Security Officer.