



March 26, 2008

TO: All AAPA Corporate Members

The American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) and the Global Environment & Technology Foundation (GETF) are pleased to announce the initiation of the **3rd Round of the Port Environmental Management System (EMS) Assistance Project**. We are currently accepting applications from ports interested in participating in this Port EMS Assistance Project.

An EMS can provide you with a management tool to improve your port's environmental performance as well as its operational efficiency and employee and stakeholder relations. The value of an EMS in the ports community has been demonstrated for several years, with ports realizing a positive influence on their operational costs and environmental compliance.

This project is tailored to the unique characteristics of the port industry, and is based on the successful 1st and 2nd rounds of the EMS Assistance Project. To date 18 ports have successfully gone through the Assistance Project. Over the 18-month project timeframe, selected participants will receive assistance through multi-day workshops involving all participants, on-site assistance visits, bi-weekly and ad-hoc technical assistance calls, and select sample port EMS documentation and other tools and materials based on data gathered over the past 4 years of the Assistance project.

Many of our project alumni have articulated the need to engage their terminal operators as part of their EMS's. Based on this information, for this round, we are opening up the EMS Assistance Project to terminal operators, provided they are nominated by a port authority. This will allow port authorities to participate (at whatever level they feel appropriate) with the terminal operator as the operator develops their EMS. Benefits will be improved /increased coordination, opportunity for information and data exchange and a strengthening of relationships between terminal operators and the port authority. As such, a port authority that has completed the Port Assistance Project and/or has an EMS in place, may nominate one of their terminal operators for participation in this Project. For those ports authorities that have not developed an EMS and want to apply for the 3rd Round, we encourage you to consider applying jointly with one or more of your terminal operators in order to go through the program together.

The attached documents provide additional information about this project, guidelines for preparing an application to participate, and the many important benefits to a port of an EMS. Each selected participant will be required to enter into an agreement with GETF to provide its share of project costs, which will be \$55,000 per participant. Participants may elect to pay this in two separate payments of \$27,500. The project costs for ports outside of the continental U.S. may be somewhat higher to offset costs for teleconferencing, mailing, and travel during site visits. Applications to participate should be submitted to GETF by May 15, 2008.

For Additional Information, please contact Meredith Martino at AAPA headquarters at 703-706-4718.

Sincerely,

Kurt J. Nagle
President and CEO
American Association of Port Authorities

Noeleen Tillman
Executive Vice President
Global Environment & Technology
Foundation