



MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN

These bulletins are purely informational for the maritime community within this Captain of the Port zone. They advise you of emerging information & situations that may impact our Marine Transportation System. As important, they help to manage expectations & facilitate cooperation regarding actions that we may be taking and/or that you may need to employ in the interest of safety/security. Increased vigilance in our maritime world hinges significantly upon proactive engagement & information sharing with the private sector, which has the primary responsibility for security & safety at their waterfront facilities & vessels.

BULLETIN NO: 005-04

Date: April 7, 2004

SUBJECT: Marine Operations Risk Guide

ATTN: Agents, Vessel Operators, and Facility Operators

1. This bulletin announces the availability of a Marine Operations Risk Guide that is designed to help vessel and facility operators to become more aware of the potential risks inherent to their operations and to identify ways of controlling, reducing, or even eliminating those risks, thereby making operations safer.
2. Addressing risk involves three activities:
 - a. **Risk assessment** is a process for identifying hazards and assessing the risk (probability and consequence) posed by
 - b. **Risk management** is a process for dealing with the assessed risks through the development of cost-effective countermeasures.
 - c. **Risk communication** is a two-way process that (1) allows all stakeholders the opportunity to provide input into the process, and (2) provides a means of showing the value of decisions to others, which is particularly important when dealing with regulatory agencies or the public.

This guide breaks these three activities into ten steps that will help identify potential problem areas in an operation, balance tradeoffs, and assist in decision making.

3. The Marine Operations Risk Guide can be accessed via the internet at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/advisory/ctac/morg.pdf>, as can more information about risk and Risk-Based Decision Making (RBDM) at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/risk/index.html>.
4. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this Marine Operations Risk Guide, employing risk-based decision making or any other issue please do not hesitate to contact the Port Operations Duty Officer at (203) 468-4444.

/s/

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