



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PORT OF HOUSTON AUTHORITY'S ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM  
CAPTURES A TOP INDUSTRY ACCOLADE**

*AAPA cites PHA for its precedent-setting ISO 14001 compliance*

HOUSTON – The Port of Houston Authority (PHA) has been named the winner of the Calvin Hurst Award for Outstanding Achievement by the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA). The PHA's innovative Environmental Management System (EMS) at the Barbours Cut Container Terminal and Central Maintenance Facility received high marks from the panel of judges who reviewed the entries for this year's AAPA environmental awards competition. Both PHA properties have achieved compliance with ISO 14001 standards – a first for any port in the U.S.

H. Thomas Kornegay, Executive Director of the PHA, accepted the award on behalf of the Port during a special ceremony held in conjunction with the recent AAPA Convention in Palm Beach, Florida. "The Port of Houston Authority has worked diligently to implement an EMS that meets the rigorous standards of ISO 14001," stated Kornegay. "We are proud to be the first Port in the United States that has succeeded in creating and implementing such a program and we look forward to surpassing this benchmark in the future," Kornegay added.

The PHA is the first port since 1998 to be named the recipient of this coveted port industry accolade, which is named posthumously in remembrance of the first professional marine environmentalist who served at the Port of Los Angeles from 1972 to 1987. Because of the exemplary nature of its intended recipients, the AAPA does not necessarily present the award every year.

Following its selection by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in March, 2000, as one of 14 public entities to participate in a pilot program to develop an EMS, the PHA developed

and implemented a program that concentrates on increasing recycling, preventing pollution, and reducing air emissions. To reduce emissions and improve air quality, the Port has been testing PuriNOX, a Lubrizol diesel emulsion product, for more than a year on five yard tractors and two rubber tire gantry cranes. Emission testing results show a 25 percent reduction in nitrogen oxide (NOx) levels and a 30 percent reduction in particulate matter (PM).

In addition, the Port collaborated with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, or TCEQ (formerly the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission, or TNRCC) to reduce its use of absorbents by 50 percent to meet the EMS objective. The goal was attained by using a cement mixer to distribute oil evenly throughout all used absorbent material. The material can then be reused to absorb six or seven additional spills.

An EMS that meets ISO 14001 standards includes a requirement that the recognized organization must work continuously to improve its environmental performance. The Port will be audited twice a year to ensure that its environmental impacts, pollution prevention and overall operations meet or exceed the levels needed for certification. Pending the approvals for the proposed Bayport Container and Cruise Terminal, the Port of Houston Authority is committed to meeting ISO 14001 standards upon the completion and opening of the facility.

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#### The Port of Houston Authority

*The Port of Houston Authority owns and operates the public facilities located along the Port of Houston, the 25-mile long complex of diversified public and private facilities designed for handling general cargo, containers, grain, and other dry bulk materials, project and heavy lift cargo, and other types of cargo. The Port of Houston Authority plays a vital role in ensuring navigation safety along the Houston Ship Channel, which has been instrumental in Houston's development as a center of international trade. The port – sixth largest in the world – is ranked first in the United States in foreign waterborne commerce and second in total tonnage. Each year, more than 6,600 vessels from around the world call at the port. The Port of Houston Authority's Barbours Cut Container Terminal and Central Maintenance Facility are the first of any port facilities in the U.S. to develop and implement an innovative Environmental Management System that meets the rigorous standards of ISO 14001 compliance. For more information, please visit <http://www.portofhouston.com>.*

#### American Association of Port Authorities

*Founded in 1912, the American Association of Port Authorities is a trade association which represents more than 150 public port authorities in the United States, Canada, the Caribbean and Latin America. In addition, Association members include more than 300 sustaining and associate members -- firms and individuals with an interest in the seaports of the Western Hemisphere. AAPA is dedicated to serving deep draft public ports by enhancing port management professionalism, and advocating issues critical to public seaports. AAPA promotes the common interests of the port community, and provides leadership on trade, transportation, environmental and other issues related to port development and operations. AAPA also works to educate the public, media, local, state and Federal legislators about the essential role ports play within the global transportation system. For more information, visit <http://www.aapa-ports.org>.*