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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PORT OF LOS ANGELES SELECTED BY U.S. EPA, AAPA TO INITIATE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



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After 5:00 p.m.:

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SAN PEDRO, CA – The Port of Los Angeles is one of 11 U.S. ports chosen to participate in the Port Environmental Management System (EMS) Assistance Project, a partnership effort of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) and Global Environment & Technology Foundation (GETF).

An EMS is a set of processes and practices, which enable an organization to reduce environmental impacts and increase operational efficiency. Participating ports are selected on the basis of existing environmental programs, diverse maritime facilities and management resources. The Port of Los Angeles is the first seaport in California to incorporate this system.

“Environmental policies are of paramount importance to the Port and our tenants,” said Commission President Nicholas Tonsich. “The Port will continue to develop and implement policies that increase the quality of life for ourselves and future generations.”

“The premise behind a strong EMS requires a commitment from management, staff and our customers, not just environmental personnel,” said Larry Keller, Executive Director. “This method of communication and participation is not out of the ordinary for the Port of Los Angeles, which has always viewed environmental issues as everyone’s concern.”

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Port of Los Angeles Environmental Management System
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“The institution of an EMS adds another layer of credibility to our environmental efforts,” said Dr. Ralph Appy, Director of Environmental Management at the Port of Los Angeles. “At the end of this two-year project trial, we will have gone from double-checking to triple-checking our environmental performance.”

In addition to preserving natural resources, the EMS framework integrates improvements in other critical areas, such as operational efficiency and community relations.

The Port of Los Angeles remains committed to the environment with aggressive, broad-based environmental initiatives, diversified community outreach efforts and a comprehensive safety and security program.

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