The Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (S/CIP) of the Organization of American States (OAS) is pleased to share with you its e-Bulletin for CIP Associate Members, CIP Highlights, below.

Announcements

CIP Highlights

May/June 2016
Vol. 20

The Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (S/CIP) and the North American Marine Environment Protection Association (NAMEPA) are pleased to announce the launch of the 2016 Maritime Award of the Americas. This award recognizes port authorities and institutions of CIP/OAS Member States for their substantial contribution to the development of the port industry, and successful practices that demonstrate excellence, innovation, and sustainability in the Maritime and Port Sectors of the Hemisphere. The S/CIP invites all its Members to submit their entries before the submission deadline on November 15, 2016. The
award categories include Environmental Waste Management, Port Safety and Security Management, Sustainable Touristic Destination Port, Corporate Social Responsibility, Disaster Mitigation and Management in Ports, and Gender Equality Initiatives in Ports. For further information on guidelines and the terms and conditions, [click here](#).

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**Scholarships for the XXI Ibero-American Course on Port Management in Madrid, Spain - Call for Applications Open!**

The S/CIP and Puertos del Estado of Spain are organizing the XXI Ibero-American Course on Port Management, from September 26 to October 26, 2016 in Madrid, Spain. Thanks to the support of Puertos del Estado of Spain, the S/CIP offers up to 25 scholarships to applicants who are either citizens or permanent residents of any of the CIP/OEA Member States. The recipients will have the opportunity to learn about a vast array of topics related to port management, such as political considerations, financing port operations, necessary human resources, and environmental security. For more information on the terms and conditions, [click here](#).
AAPA Port Security and IT Seminar and Expo

The American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) will host a Port Security and Information Technology (IT) Seminar and Expo in The Westin Hotel in Crystal City, located in Arlington, Virginia, from July 20-22, 2016. The event will focus on the security and safety challenges confronting public seaports, latest regulatory updates, and the industry's current trends. Sessions will include Security and IT in the Maritime Environment, Cybersecurity Reporting Requirements, Cybersecurity and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and Convergence of Physical and Network Cyber Vulnerabilities. For more information, click here.

COMPAS and its Sustainability Approach

COMPAS funded its first comprehensive study on the environmental impact of climate change on Colombia's coastal areas, which was used as a reference by the Government of Australia, as the world's first systemic and integrated approach. COMPAS has also contributed to the recovery of the strategic ecosystem of Gulf of Morrosquillo, through the creation of Artificial Barrier Reefs in the generation of underwater rigid structures that promote the development of marine wildlife. Therefore, COMPAS has helped increased economic sustainability for local fishing communities and ecotourism activities, while improving living conditions for the inhabitants of the area. For further information, click here.
2016 Central American Chapter Meeting in Panama City

The Western Dredging Association (WEDA) announces the 2016 Central America Chapter Meeting at the Hilton Hotel in Panama City, Panama, from September 13-15, 2016. The purpose is to take advantage of the inauguration of the Panama Canal expansion and address some of the issues that the Central American and Latin American regions face towards the future. Key topics will include dredging and port development plans in Panama, Nicaragua, and updates of port infrastructure development programs in Mexico and Brazil. For more information on the agenda and on the location, click here.

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Soget Partner Network (SPN), an opportunity to new business partners to enter the Port Community System (PCS)

SOGET announces the new SOGET Partner Network (SPN), a program aimed at providing opportunities to new business partners to enter the Port Community System (PCS). It plans to create a dialogue among alliance partners, technology partners, and professional service partners who will benefit from a wider spectrum of IT solutions. Consequently, it will enhance their competitiveness and promotion in the PCS market on a global scale. For more information, please click here.

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SOGET will participate at the 19th Annual General Meeting of the Port Management Association of the Caribbean (PMAC) in collaboration
with the Nevis Air and Sea Ports Authority (NASPA)

The Meeting that will be hosted at the Four Seasons Hotel in Pinneys Estate, Nevis from June 22-24, 2016, will include featured presentations including competitiveness in the Caribbean port environment, strategic asset management, and hazard risk reduction, among others. In addition to being an informative session, participants will have the opportunity to network and develop new partnerships. For more information on registering for the event click here.

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PORT AND MARITIME INDUSTRY NEWS

New Mobile Application, PSP Móvil, by Port of Altamira

The Integral Port Administration of Altamira (API, in Spanish) presents its new mobile application, “PSP Móvil.” This application uses technology to facilitate communication, fill out formalities and industrial port activities at Port of Altamira, all paperless. This makes it possible for anyone, both outside and within the port, to be informed on the logistics of the merchandise’s shipment of imports and exports. The application is easily accessible to phone owners, as it works with both Android and iOS operative systems. For more information, click here.
Inauguration of the Panama Canal Expansion

Panama will celebrate a historical moment with the inauguration of the Panama Canal expansion on June 26, 2016, making it the most important infrastructure project of the country in the last 100 years. The Panama Canal Authorities announced that this great event will assemble different dignitaries from Latin American countries and users of the canal. Open inauguration events will take place on June 11th and 12th. Thanks to the efforts of the Panama Canal Authority, Ministry of Foreign Relations, and the Presidency of the Republic, among others, this project will be an important step for the commercial development of the country. For more information, click here.

Competitive Integration

The Ports of Manzanillo and Lazaro Cardenas in the Mexican Pacific, integrate the "central economic corridor" in the country, allowing to connect with Veracruz and Tuxpan in the Gulf of Mexico. There is a key infrastructure in this path: Guanajuato Puerto Interior, an inland port that has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Transport and Communications (SCT) to maximize the
movement of goods through this corridor that involve 15 States, which generate 51% of Mexico’s GDP. To read the full article, click here.

Interested in becoming an Associate Member of the CIP? Click here for further information on the benefits of joining, opportunities for collaboration and the formal application procedures or contact the CIP Secretariat.