



Port E-News

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PORT OF GALVESTON INCREASES SECURITY West of Port Secured through Pier 40 Gate

The Port of Galveston has secured the west end of its facilities through the construction of a new security gate at Pier 40 and the installation of continual, perimeter fencing from the cruise terminal to Pier 41. Other improvements include new enhanced lighting throughout the west end of the port complex.

The new entrance and other elements of the project enable the port to secure and isolate the western portion of its property to eliminate the unauthorized entry of vehicles and persons. The implementation of these controls is critical to maintaining a secure environment for port operations.

“Security was not a major focus to the many ports prior to 9-11,” said Port Director Steven M. Cernak. “Most of us were focused on increasing our cargo and cruise businesses. Now things are very different. We are now concentrating on security measures port-wide. This new gate is just the first of many efforts that will become evident in the near future.”

The \$1.2 million gate project was one of several recommendations adopted from the port’s security assessment. This assessment used an advanced terrorist-modeling technology known as AVERT (Automated Vulnerability for Risks of Terrorism), developed by the ARES Corporation.

In March 2002 the federal government approved \$92 million to fund the first round of Port Security Grants to assist seaports in mitigating security vulnerabilities.

The federal government developed the Port Security Grant Program to assist seaports in making security improvements that were unforeseen prior to the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. The U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD) and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) are involved in all aspects of administering the grant program.

In this project and in subsequent rounds of the grant program, the Port of Galveston has been awarded more than \$5 million from the Port Security Grant Program to implement

security improvements. Additional security projects are underway and will be completed over the next several months.

GRANT FACTS

Round One Projects

Port Security Assessment-Award \$375,000

Performed by ARES Corporation-The assessment utilized advanced terrorist modeling known as Automated Vulnerability for Risks of Terrorism (AVERT).

West End Mitigation Project-Award \$1,236,206

Construct new security entrance and install 6,500 linear feet of new fence and perimeter lighting to secure the Port from Pier 30 to Pier 41.

Round Two Projects

East End Mitigation Strategy-Award \$216,000

Relocate 16th Street checkpoint and install surveillance cameras, additional lighting and new fencing in specified areas.

Relocate Police Headquarters & Establish Emergency Operations Center-Award \$771,600

Relocate police headquarters to more central location and install surveillance cameras, relay network, and new lighting.

Cruise Terminal Security Enhancements-Award \$433,300

Install additional lights, surveillance cameras at Terminal 1 and 2, crash gates and protective bollards, and upgrade exterior lighting.

Waterside Cruise Terminal Protection-Award \$700,000

Install surveillance cameras in perimeter locations throughout the Port and compatible relay equipment to interface all surveillance into command center.

Round Three Projects

Cruise Terminal Expansion Security Measures-Award \$1,108,000

Install new surveillance cameras at Cruise Terminal 2, additional lighting, intrusion detection devices, roll-up gates and back-up power.

East End Container Yard Security Measures-Award \$951,000

Install new fencing, lighting and surveillance cameras.

Total Awards from Port Security Grant Program

\$5,791,106
