Management and Reconstitution of the Marine Transportation System

Coast Guard Perspective

Scott Whalen, M.Ed. USCG
Vessel Traffic Management

Passive Traffic Management
What is a Vessel Traffic Service?

- Active Traffic Management

- VTS works to prevent groundings, rammings, and collisions, and the associated loss of life and damage to property and the environment by sharing information and implementing appropriate traffic management measures.
Vessel Traffic Service

What a VTS Does…

- Enhance Maritime Security
- Facilitate Commerce
- Protect the Environment
- Enhance Maritime Security
Disruptions to the MTS

- Fog
- Weather
- Planned Events
- Unplanned Events
Disruptions to the MTS

Minor Disruptions…

- VTS Advisories
- Recommendations
- Directions

- Safety Zones / Security Zones / COTP Orders

- Port Coordination Team (PCT)
Major MTS Disruptions…

“Our operational capabilities also include developing a national capacity for Marine Transportation System recovery. The nation needs a coordinated, integrated approach to planning for and responding to major disruptions in our marine transportation system, the lifeblood of America’s economy.

Adm. Thad Allen
2007 State of the Coast Guard Address
Disruptions to the MTS

MANDATES

• MTSA 2002
• National Infrastructure Recovery Plan (MIRP)
• National Strategy for Maritime Security
• National Maritime Transportation Recovery Plan
• National Incident Management System
• Maritime Infrastructure Recovery Plan
• USCG Strategy for Maritime Safety, Security and Stewardship
What is the MTSRU?

The MTS Recovery Unit is a part of the overall response and recovery effort following a significant port disruption.

While Federal, State, and local authorities are working on a wide range of emergency response activities, the MTSRU has the singular focus on re-opening the port for the resumption of commercial activity.
MTS Recovery Unit

Operations

Planning

Logistics

Finance

IC / UC

MTSRU
MTSRU Responsibilities:

• Track and report status of the MTS
• Understand critical commerce pathways
• Provide an avenue of input for stakeholders
• Determine and recommend courses of action
• Recommend priorities for MTS recovery operations
• Restore basic functionality of MTS infrastructure to facilitate the rapid resumption of commerce.
MTS Recovery Unit

- Assess
- CART
- MTSRU
- PCT
- Restore
MTS Recovery Unit

Essential Elements of Information

- Waterways & Navigation
- Port – Critical Infrastructure
- Port – Vessels
- Offshore Energy
- Monitoring Systems

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MTS Recovery Unit
MTS Recovery Unit

Maritime SAR
Urban SAR
Environmental Response
Communications
Logistical Support
Salvage Operations

Public Safety
Bridges
Critical Infrastructure (ALL)
• Protection
• Support