



MARITIME SAFETY/SECURITY INFORMATION BULLETIN

July 16, 2008

Coast Guard Sector Lake Michigan



TWIC Compliance Date – MTSA Facilities on the Great Lakes

On May 7th, 2008, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a notice in the Federal Register that extended the national compliance date for the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) program to April 15, 2009, which reflects a realignment of the September 25, 2008 compliance date initially set in the final rule. The U.S. Coast Guard and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) announced the TWIC program compliance date for owners and operators of **Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA) regulated facilities located within the Captain of the Port (COTP) Zones Buffalo, Detroit, Lake Michigan, Sault Ste. Marie and Duluth will be October 31, 2008.**

Workers are encouraged to enroll as soon as possible in order to meet the October 31st deadline, and to avoid potential, last minute surge-related delays. Applicants can pre-enroll online at <http://twicinformation.tsa.dhs.gov>, or call 1-866-DHS-TWIC. A listing of all TWIC enrollment centers, address information, hours of operations and downloadable maps can be located online by State and/or Port Name at <http://twicinformation.tsa.dhs.gov/twicinfo/schedule.jsp> **As a point of clarification, all Coast Guard credentialed mariners have until April 15, 2009 to enroll and obtain their TWIC.** Until that time, and while traveling to locations where compliance is already in effect, a valid Merchant Mariner License (and photo ID), Merchant Mariner Document, or Certificate of Registry (and photo ID) may be sufficient to obtain unescorted access to respective terminal/facility areas where a TWIC is required, at the facility's discretion.

Coast Guard Sector Lake Michigan is fully committed to assisting all facility owners, operators, and security officers with the implementation of this program. Should you have any questions, please feel free to communicate directly with members of my staff, Marine Safety Unit Chicago 6930-986-2155. Additionally, regularly updated information on the TWIC program can be found on TSA's web site at www.tsa.gov/twic or at Coast Guard's HOMEPORT site at <http://homeport.uscg.mil>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B. C. Jones".

B. C. Jones
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port / Federal Maritime Security Coordinator