



Update Bulletin

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HOMELAND SECURITY STUDIES AND ANALYSIS INSTITUTE

Following the National Small Vessel Security Summit and the subsequent Regional meetings, DHS issued its Small Vessel Security Strategy¹. Since April 2008, DHS has been developing implementation plans and making steady progress in essential areas of operations to manage the potential small vessel security risk. This is the first of what will be periodic updates to stakeholders on DHS actions involving small vessel security.

Based on stakeholder recommendations from the Summit meetings, DHS has been testing innovations that increase its engagement with the public, advancing and integrating DHS capabilities and working with partners at home and abroad. Examples of these actions are:

- The *Citizen Action Network (CAN)*, which has long served the Puget Sound area, and *Focused Lens (FL)*, developed in California ports to systematically increase marine patrol presence and effectiveness, began working closely with *America's Waterway Watch (AWW)* to develop a model for upgraded and expanded suspicious activity information collection. This coordinated set of programs, together termed "*AWW2.0*" to symbolize the leverage that is achieved, was tested with Canadian partners during the 2010 Winter Olympics and plans are being formulated to roll it out nationally. The results are reported below.
- DHS developed, successfully field tested in Puget Sound and San Diego, operational concepts and technologies to detect and thwart the transport of nuclear materials by small vessels.
- The International Maritime Organization (IMO) issued, **NON-MANDATORY GUIDELINES ON SECURITY ASPECTS OF THE OPERATION OF VESSELS WHICH DO NOT FALL WITHIN THE SCOPE OF SOLAS CHAPTER XI-2 AND THE ISPS CODE**. These guidelines are being included in the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators' standards of training for boat operators, and in the U.S. Power Squadrons' training materials. Training that meets the guidelines will expand operator's knowledge of small vessel security when operating out of their normal home ports in the U.S. or abroad.

A roadmap for the entire effort is expected to be released in the near future.

¹ All documents developed by DHS on small vessel security can be read or downloaded from the DHS website at: http://www.dhs.gov/files/programs/gc_1199394950818.shtm.

After Action Report: "AWW2.0" Test

In February 2010, "AWW2.0" was put to the test in direct support of the XXI Olympic Games held in Vancouver, British Columbia -- a major North American port city nearly surrounded by water. This 16-day international event was held mere minutes away from major U.S. ports, Defense Department facilities, oil pipelines and 150 miles of shared international nautical boundary.

"AWW2.0" ties together aspects of AWW with those of Puget Sound's Citizen Action Network (CAN), and California's *Focused Lens (FL)* (which was developed following the National Small Vessel Security Summit), and works closely with the Coast Guard Auxiliary. AWW 2.0 uses cutting edge technologies to provide maritime authorities with pre-arranged, on-scene contacts to confirm situations, gather suspicious activity information, and provide rapid reports of observed unusual conditions.

An analysis² of 32 attacks in the United States since September 11, 2001 (all non-maritime), found that in approximately 21% of the cases, citizens' proactive involvement was a significant factor in plots being discovered or disrupted.

Before the Olympics, "strike teams" of active duty and Auxiliary Coast Guard members conducted more than 500 regional marina visits, working with hundreds of marina owners, managers and "live-aboards" about the need for vigilance and advising them on how to report suspicious activity³.

During the Olympics, the new social networking capabilities of AWW 2.0 reached more than 1,000 *Facebook* users. The operation's website averaged 200 visitors a day, from 94 nations. The supporting *Twitter* site garnered 5,938 followers during the period. Seventy new CAN members were logged into CAN's alert, education and live collaboration system. These new members joined the 340 other strategically located CAN members (homeowners, tribal members and businesses), providing the Coast Guard and its partner agencies such as the U.S. Border Patrol an on-call force multiplier, available to provide information day or night.

This was a successful test of integrated capabilities that add to vigilance, improve reporting and increase response capability. The lessons learned will be applied broadly as DHS's Small Vessel Security program moves forward.

² Daily Intelligence Briefing, June 15, 2010, Mass Transit Authority Police Department's Interagency Counterterrorism Task Force, New York

³ Examples of behaviors and activities that may be suspicious appear at http://www.americaswaterwaywatch.us/what_is.htm provides