



The Marine Assistance Industry Journal

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CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS:

Moving forward on the heels of giants; that sentiment was echoed numerous times at the closing of the 2010 C-PORT Annual Conference. I would propose that those giant steps forward have placed us at the front of the race, when we combine that with the foundation that has been built and the strategic partnerships developed, our industry is in a position of unprecedented progress, and the newly elected board of directors have a strength and passion that, properly channeled, will provide opportunities for the advancement of your business for many years to come.



To be sure this is not all “Fair winds and Following Seas” as one of C-PORT’s founders wishes for us all. There is much work to be done, and many important decisions to be made. Some of the challenges we face are the USCG Inspections, EPA regulations, California government funded competition, and a changing business environment just to start. There is no question that the challenges ahead will affect the daily operations of all our business to some degree. Our focus is to be involved from the beginning, doing our best to foresee and prevent the unintended consequences of new regulations, influencing these unavoidable changes into opportunities for our industry. This effort will require us to work diligently, continually improve the relationships developed with the USCG, NASBLA, key members of the House and Senate, and most importantly the cooperation between the towing networks giving us one strong voice on the issues that bind us all together.

Moving forward with the organization of our new executive director, C-PORT will continue to develop the information exchange via the website providing our membership with updates on progress being made toward our goals and where we will benefit from the strength of our members. This exchange will be distributed to our strategic partners, further strengthening our relationships and exposure. I encourage comment and feedback as you receive these updates. The board of directors of C-PORT will be taking their direction from the membership, so let us know your thoughts on the tasks at hand. C-PORT is your voice, thank you for making the 2010 conference a success and I look forward to serving the industry to the best of my ability.

Sincerely,
Christopher C. Shaffner
Chairman