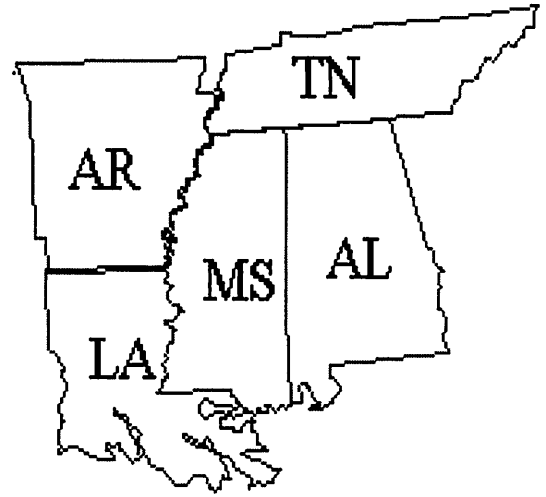


# Southern Currents



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## Notice to the Area Port of New Orleans Trade Community

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Date: June 23, 2014

No.: 14-017

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### **SUBJECT: Emergency Preparedness Business Resumption Procedures**

The 2014 hurricane season began on June 1, 2014, and will be in effect until the end of November. A vital portion of CBP's Emergency Preparedness program is to keep all trade stakeholders informed regarding operational issues that could impact the flow of trade into the U.S.

When a hurricane is within 24 hours of landfall, weather forecasters will declare a Hurricane Warning. Once a Hurricane Warning is announced, non-essential CBP operations and facilities will begin to shut down. If a shutdown takes place that will impact the trade community, the Area Port of New Orleans will issue a Southern Currents to all trade stakeholders in an effort to provide shutdown information as well as CBP contact information. Similar Southern Currents will be issued for other emergency events.

In addition to Southern Currents, the following information includes other avenues that the trade community should pursue in order to receive the most current information regarding port closures, port openings and other trade business resumption issues:

1. CBP.gov website: [www.cbp.gov](http://www.cbp.gov)

When an emergency event occurs, the first page on the CBP.gov website will include up-to date information of interest to trade stakeholders, to include port openings and closures. In addition, CBP business resumption information can be found in the following section of the CBP.gov website: <http://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/news/advisories/ubrm>.

The CBP Unified Business Resumption Messaging page will include messages, direction and updates to enable post-incident resumption of trade for northern border, southern border, air and sea ports of entry, to include rail operations.

2. Cargo Systems Messaging Service (CSMS)

CSMS is a searchable database of messages that are of interest to ABI Filers, ACE Event Participants, ACE Portal Accounts, ACE Reports Users, Air Carriers, Ocean Carriers, Periodic Monthly Statement Participants, Rail Carriers and Truck Carriers. CSMS messages can be retrieved based on a combination of keywords and filtering by group. CSMS provides the added feature of cross referencing messages from the initial search result set with related message counterparts, sorting by publish date, title and CSMS number.

E-mail Notifications: CSMS is augmented by an e-mail subscription service which provides timely notification of new messages based on each or any combination of item groups. Use the CSMS subscription form to create a new subscription account or to change or cancel an existing account.

Trade stakeholders who have subscribed to the Cargo Systems Messaging Service (CSMS) email notification system will receive automated electronic updates regarding disruptions to trade and business resumption information.

If you have not subscribed to CSMS email notification feature and wish to do so, go to the following link on the CBP.gov website:

[http://apps.cbp.gov/csms/csms.asp?display\\_page=1](http://apps.cbp.gov/csms/csms.asp?display_page=1)

This section of the website will allow you to subscribe to CSMS or to change/cancel an existing CSMS account.

3. Homeport:

CBP and the United States Coast Guard (USCG) have worked together to develop joint protocols for the expeditious recovery of trade. The USCG maintains a website, entitled Homeport, with updated information for business resumption. Homeport can be accessed at the following website: <http://homeport.uscg.mil/mycg/portal/ep/home.do>

Questions regarding the information provided in this notice should be addressed to Merlin Hymel, Assistant Port Director, Trade Operations, Area Port of New Orleans, at 504-670-2088.

/s/

  
Raymond S. Polley

Area Port Director

New Orleans, Louisiana