

**VISA EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP (EWG)  
MEETING MINUTES, 20 FEBRUARY 2003**

1. NOTICE: The Executive Working Group (EWG) was organized by the National Defense Transportation Association (NDTA) Sealift Committee in March 1995, and consists primarily of representatives from the Department of Defense (DOD), the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the transportation industry. Industry representatives on the EWG are selected by Mr. James Henry, Chairman of the NDTA Sealift Committee (telephone (301) 423-3335). The purpose of the EWG is to study transportation issues of interest to government and industry and report the status of these issues to the NDTA membership. The EWG is a forum for the exchange of information. DOD officials participating in the EWG may not transfer any authority or responsibility for government decisions to industry or to the industry members of the EWG. By making the minutes of EWG meetings available electronically, DOD, DOT, and the NDTA promote other forums for the exchange of information. DOD invites interested parties to comment on issues considered at EWG meetings, to provide additional information, or to request further information. The DOD point of contact is Major Todd Robbins, who can be contacted by e-mail todd.robbins@hq.transcom.mil, telephone (618) 229-1451, fax (618) 256-6877, or by mail: USTRANSCOM, ATTN: TCJ5-AS (MAJ Robbins), 508 Scott Drive, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, 62225-5357. Interested parties also may contact the NDTA through Mr. James Henry [telephone (301) 423-3335], the DOT through Mr. James Caponiti [telephone (202) 366-5400], or any industry member of the EWG. Industry members of the EWG are (in alphabetical order):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
Mr. James Bambrick	American Roll-On Roll-Off Carrier	(201) 571-0480
Mr. Lawrence Cosgriff	APL	(202) 496-2480
Mr. Edward Fortunato	Crowley Maritime Corp.	(703) 684-1585
Mr. Michael Garvin	Matson Navigation Company	(415) 957-4200
Mr. Kenneth Gaulden	Maersk Line Limited	(703) 351-9200
Mr. Ans Kristbergs	Farrell Lines, Inc. / P&O Nedlloyd	(201) 896-8979
Mr. J. Robert Leyh	Central Gulf Lines and Waterman Steamship	(202) 659-3804
Mr. Augie Tellez	Seafarers International Union	(301) 899-0675
Mr. James Wachtel	Lykes Lines Limited	(813) 276-4698

2. The agenda is at Attachment 1.
3. The list of EWG attendees is at Attachment 2.
4. The updated list of tasks from the EWG is shown at Attachment 3.
5. MEETING SUMMARY.

a. Opening Remarks.

LtGen Gary Hughey (USTRANSCOM Deputy Commander) welcomed the meeting participants. He noted that the meeting was to be at Scott but due to the weather in the Washington D.C. area, it had to be held via unclassified VTC. He noted that he is concerned about the issue of Force Protection and that our country was in extraordinary times. LtGen Hughey stated that he could not be with a better group of folks at this time.

- (1) RDML Chris Ames (USTRANSCOM J5) greeted everyone and asked that the attendees recognize Brig Gen Jim Swanson (USTRANSCOM JA) for his service to VISA and the United States. RDML Ames presented Brig Gen Swanson with the ceremonial VISA card for his membership and assistance to the program. Brig Gen Swanson thanked everyone for his

or her effort to the program and stated that we are doing important work. The DOD cannot do this alone nor can industry; but together anything is possible.

(2) MAJ Todd Robbins (USTRANSCOM J5-AS) presented the agenda for the meeting.

b. JPAG Action Item Status

- (1) Priority berthing in AOR - Mr. Bill Lucas (MTMC) stated that MTMC continues to work the priority berthing concerns. He noted that MTMC has not heard of any problems in getting into the ports. However, there have been some customs issues.
- (2) Max draft in ports within AOR - MAJ Robbins pointed out that this was not a secure meeting so commercially available information will have to suffice for now.
- (3) Which JCS Exercises will take place this year? - MAJ Robbins stated that as of now all typical exercises are still scheduled. Any changes will be noted as soon as possible.
- (4) Does the Gov't pay interest on late payments? - Ms. Gail Jorgenson (TCCS-AQ) stated that the government does pay interest in certain cases. Payments are dependent on the contracts and the specific situation. There are some unique issues and when these occur the carriers should contact MTMC.
- (5) Status of Threat Assessments for ports of interest? - This is an unclassified meeting. MAJ Robbins informed the attendees that nothing has changed since the previous classified briefing.
- (6) CBRD for Liners - Mr. Jim Caponiti (MARAD) noted that there was not a significant amount of progress made on the issue since the last meeting. MARAD has provided some carriers with civilian specifications. However, the concern is that the same backlog that MARAD has encountered will limit the carriers from acquiring them on the commercial side.
  - (a) The carriers mentioned that during Desert Shield/Desert Storm the DOD provided protective suits to the vessels in the AOR. When the vessels departed the AOR the suits were returned.
  - (b) Mr. Caponiti – We would like to do that but at this point we do not have enough suits to meet the requirement.
  - (c) The carriers expressed their concern that liners were left unprotected. They realized the back order issue but the lack of protection is very significant.
  - (d) LtGen Hughey stated this has not progressed since the last meeting. “I am embarrassed by the lack of progress on this issue,” he stated. The general directed that a meeting be held as early as possible to resolve the CBRD issues. That meeting was scheduled for 25 February 2003. LtGen Hughey stated that the meeting would not end until a resolution to the issues is reached.

c. Follow-on Improvement Team (FIT) Update

- (1) Ms. Jorgenson provided a status update on the fundamental improvement team's progress. She noted that the web portal would be deployed for J5 only use end of March 03. A government wide version will be released in September 03. The web portal will by design to streamline the VISA enrollment process and will be key in developing an industry awareness education program. The contracting exercise at the December 2002 JPAG went well. We were able to identify additional areas that effort needs to be focused. We will exercise again to further refine the results but the date is yet to be determined.
- (2) Ms. Jorgenson also addressed the January 03 government only meeting. She noted that considerable progress was made but the final product is not ready to present to the EWG yet. We will continue to work this for presentation at a later date.

d. Maersk Papers

- (1) Mr. Ken Gaulden (Maersk Line, Limited) addressed a set of papers, the first on a Voluntary Phase and the second on an Ordering/Activation/Payment process. These documents from Maersk that were forwarded to EWG members. Mr. Gaulden highlighted elements of the documents and spoke to the background that initiated the development of the documents.
- (2) Mr. Gaulden briefly summarized the papers and addressed the motivation behind them. Some carriers were concerned about the potential impact of the documents after contract award. MTMC was interested in carriers' reactions and input on the Maersk documents. The majority of carriers requested an opportunity to further study the Maersk documents. The discussion concluded with the carriers agreeing to form a group to further analyze and comment on the documents. Both papers elicited concern from the attending carriers. The first paper was thought to be an "industry" paper and the point was made clear that this was not so. It was the view of most carriers that the paper should be referred to a working committee that should analyze these issues and reach some recommended positions on these issues and present it to the EWG or other executive group for decision. The second paper was objected to by other carriers and parties on the basis that it tried to create booking rules for peacetime cargoes that were not part of the current USC bid or contract as awarded. It was seen that this approach could be seen as an improper amendment to the USC. The paper was tabled.
- (3) One comment that was echoed numerous times was that the programs is working well and the fact that issues can be heard and worked in this forum is proof of the strength of the partnership.

e. Issues

f. Review the Taskers. See Attachment 3.

g. Review/Amend EWG Schedule.

- (1) Current schedule shows the following dates:
- (2) EWG meeting on 24 Mar 03 at Scott AFB

**24 Mar 03**  
17 Apr 03 (Tentative VTC)  
**15 May 03**  
19 Jun 03 (Tentative VTC)  
**17 Jul 03**

21 Aug 03 (Tentative VTC)  
**18 Sep 03**  
16 Oct 03 (Tentative VTC)  
**20 Nov 03**  
11 Dec 03 (Tentative VTC)

h. Friction Points/Issues.

(1) None

i. Rate the EWG Meeting. Ratings: 9.00

j. Closing Remarks.

(1) LtGen Hughey thanked everyone for attending the meeting and assured everyone that resolution on the CBRD and inoculations is forth coming.

6. Point of contact for updates or corrections to these minutes is MAJ Todd Robbins at (618) 229-1451, fax (618) 256-6877, e-mail: todd.robbins@hq.transcom.mil

Attachments:

1. EWG Agenda
2. EWG Attendees
3. Tasker list from EWG

**VISA EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP**  
**VTC**  
**Thursday, February 20, 2003**  
**AGENDA**

<u>TIME</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>POC</u>
1300	<b>Arrive Tunner Conference Room</b>	All
1300 - 1315	<b>VISA EWG Begins</b>	
	– Opening Remarks	TCDC
1315 – 1345	<b>JPAG Action Item Status</b>	
	– Priority berthing in AOR	MTMC
	– Max draft in ports within AOR	TCJ3
	– Which JCS Exercises will take place this year?	TCJ3
	– Does the Gov’t pay interest on late payments?	TCCS-AQ
	– Status of Threat Assessments for ports of interest?	MARAD
	– CBRD for Liners	MARAD
1345 -1415	<b>FP Commercial (U.S.-Flag) Vessels</b>	MARAD
	– Status of Threat Assessment for Ports of Interest	
	– Inoculations	
	– CBRD	
1415 – 1430	<b>Fundamental Improvement Team (FIT)</b>	FIT Team
	– Status Update	
	– Back brief EWG members on progress from January meeting	
	– Road Ahead/Timeline	
1430 - 1500	<b>Discuss “Maersk Thoughts”</b>	Maersk Paper / Mr. Gaulden
	– Voluntary Phase	
	– Ordering/Activation/Payment	
1500 - 1530	<b>Discuss “Proposed Booking Business Rules” Papers</b>	MTMC / Mr. Gaulden
1530 - 1600	<b>Industry Issues</b>	Industry Reps
1615 - 1625	<b>Wrap-up</b>	Mr. McMillin
	– Review/Amend the Schedule	
	– <b>Review EWG Taskers</b>	
	– Friction Points	
	– Rate the Meeting	
1625	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	TCDC
1630	<b>EWG Meeting Adjourns</b>	

**ATTENDEES FOR 25 OCTOBER 2002 EWG MEETING**

LtGen Gary Hughey	DCDR
Mr. James Caponiti	MARAD
Mr. Patrick Carlton	MARAD
Mr. Owen Doherty	MARAD
Mr. Bill Kurfehs	MARAD
Ms. Fran Olsen	MARAD
Mr. Kevin Tokarski	MARAD
Mr. John Henry	MSC
Mr. James Fischer (Jim)	MSC
Mr. William Lucas (Bill)	MTMC
Mr. Greg Sweetland	MTMC
Mr. Craig Robertson	MTMC
Mr. Adam Yearwood	AUSD-TP
Mr. Kenneth Gaulden (Ken)	Maersk Line Ltd.
Mr. Larry Cosgriff (Larry)	APL, Ltd.
Mr. James Bambrick (Jim)	American Roll-On Roll-Off Carrier, LLC
Mr. John Ridlon	American Roll-On Roll-Off Carrier, LLC
Mr. Edward Fortunato (Ed)	Crowley
Mr. Michael Garvin (Mike)	Matson Navigation Company
Mr. Mr. James Madden	Farrell Lines / P&O Nedlloyd
Mr. James Wachtel (Jim)	Lykes Lines Limited, LLC
Mr. J. Robert Leyh (Bob)	Central Gulf Lines & Waterman Steamship
RDML Christopher Ames (Chris)	USTRANSCOM J5
Mr. Daniel McMillin (Dan)	USTRANSCOM J5-V
Ms. Patricia Young (Trish)	USTRANSCOM J5-D
Brig Gen James Swanson (Jim)	USTRANSCOM JA
Mr. Lary Mohl	USTRANSCOM JA
Ms. Gail Jorgenson	USTRANSCOM TCCS-LQ
COL Phillip Gick (Phil)	USTRANSCOM J5A
MAJ Todd Robbins	USTRANSCOM J5-AS
Mr. Kenneth Mills (Ken)	USTRANSCOM J5-AS
LCDR Vicky Cummings	USTRANSCOM J5-AS
Mr. John Boysha	Stanley Associates
Ms. Jeannine Kenyon	Stanley Associates

**VISA EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP**  
**VTC**  
**Thursday, February 20, 2003**  
**AGENDA**

**TASKERS FROM 20 FEBRUARY 2003 EWG**

<b>TASK</b>	<b>ECD</b>
1.   CBRD Meeting Lead: TCJ5	25 Feb 03
2.   Inoculations Lead: MSC/MTMC	
3.   Review of Maersk Papers Lead: Carriers	