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MSC Presents at OAS Event on Port Logistics and Competitiveness

IXTAPA-ZIHUATANA EJO, MX (November 2010) – Ronald J. Thomason, Vice President of Strategic Programs for the Maritime Security Council (MSC), participated in the First Hemispheric Convention on Port Logistics and Competitiveness conducted by the Organization of American States (OAS) Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP), and hosted by the Mexican government and maritime industry..

This important convention served as a forum for the discussion, analysis, and exchange of information on strategies to increase the operational effectiveness and competitiveness of the OAS member states' port and supply chain logistical elements. Representatives from international organizations, governments and ports from Europe, the Americas, and Mexico shared their insights into their strategic plans and programs for increasing port and supply chain effectiveness, capacity, and competitiveness.

The MSC's Mr. Thomason delivered the **only** presentation that focused on the need for integrating security requirements and practices into the design, engineering, and management of port and supply chain facilities and operations. The centerpiece of his presentation was an overview of the MSC's Country- and Enterprise-level Security Capacity Programs that are designed to provide participants with a structured security program that focuses on maintaining functional compliance with the applicable security standards and industry best practices.

The Convention was organized and hosted by the Mexican government's Ports and Merchant Marine of the Secretariat of Communications and Transports (SCT), the Integral Port Administration of Lazaro Cardenas (APILAC), and the Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) of the Organization of American States (OAS). Mr. Thomason's presentation may be viewed on the MSC's website at: www.maritimesecurity.org.

About the Maritime Security Council (MSC)

The Maritime Security Council – established in 1988 – is a not-for-profit, U.S.-based organization that serves as an advocate for the security interests of the domestic and global maritime and supply chain communities. Our mission is to advance the security of the United States and the international maritime community by representing maritime interests before government bodies; acting as liaison between industry and government; collecting and disseminating timely information; encouraging the development of industry-specific technologies; and providing educational conferences and accreditation for our membership and government partners.

**About Ronald Thomason**

Ron Thomason is the Vice President of Strategic Programs for the Maritime Security Council, and has served as a Governor of the organization for ten years. In this capacity, he has served as a maritime security industry representative to organizations such as the Department of Transportation's Marine Transportation System National Advisory Council (MTSNAC); Organization of American States (OAS); the International Police Organization (INTERPOL); and the US Department of State's Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC).

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