



The Maryland Port Administration

PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Richard Scher (rscher@marylandports.com)
Jillian Ball (jball@marylandports.com)
410-446-1204

PORT ADMINISTRATION CONGRATULATES THREE MARYLAND INSTITUTIONS ON FEDERAL MARITIME ADMINISTRATION DESIGNATION FOR TRAINING FUTURE PROFESSIONALS

Anne Arundel Community College, Community College of Baltimore County, Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies Each Recognized for Preparing Students for Maritime Careers

(BALTIMORE, MD) – The Maryland Department of Transportation’s Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA) today congratulated Anne Arundel Community College (AACC), the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) and the Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies (MITAGS) for being designated Centers of Excellence for Domestic Maritime Workforce Training and Education by the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Maritime Administration (MARAD).

“We congratulate these three institutions on this unique and important designation,” said MDOT MPA Executive Director William P. Doyle. “Careers in the maritime industry are rewarding, offer tremendous benefits and advancement opportunities, and are critical to our economy. As our nation’s leading maritime organization, MARAD’s support of these institutions will benefit students and help develop a strong pool of professional candidates for the Port of Baltimore.”

“The Port of Baltimore and its partners – including Ports America Chesapeake, our logistics teams and the carriers who deliver goods around the world – are investing heavily to improve, modernize and expand our Port’s infrastructure and capacity,” MDOT Secretary Greg Slater said. “Maryland’s port is fueling the regional economy and creating thousands of new jobs. These institutions recognized by MARAD are playing a critical role by training the next generation of maritime professionals we’ll need for future growth and success.”

MARAD recognized a total of 27 Centers of Excellence among community colleges and training facilities across the U.S. Under this status, MARAD can assist each recognized center and help with recruiting students and faculty, enhancing the facility, awarding student credit for military service. The program was authorized in 2018 to assist the maritime industry in recruiting and growing its labor force.

“We are honored that The Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies (MITAGS) is a 2021 Center of Excellence for Domestic Maritime Workforce Training and Education designee,” said MITAGS Executive Director Glen Paine. “Since being established in Maryland in 1972, MITAGS has become a leading maritime workforce development, training and simulation center in the United States and in the international maritime community.”

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Governor Larry Hogan | MDOT Secretary Gregory Slater | MDOT MPA Executive Director William P. Doyle

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“This Center of Excellence designation will support and help grow our programs in transportation and logistics and marine skilled trades that prepare students for careers in the maritime industry at the local and regional levels,” said Karen Cook, dean of the AACC School of Law. “By developing more pathways for students in both credit and noncredit programming we can respond to the industry’s demand for more skilled maritime workers and, at the same time, provide good-paying jobs and careers for members of our community.”

“With our recent opening of the CCBC Transportation Training Center at Tradepoint Atlantic, this designation will further bolster our efforts to prepare students for careers in the Port of Baltimore’s maritime, intermodal transportation and distribution industry sectors,” said Kipp Snow, director of transportation, distribution and maritime logistics for CCBC. “We look forward to collaborating with MARAD to further improve existing as well as developing new pathways for industry workers in our region.”

The Port of Baltimore generates about 15,300 direct jobs, with nearly 140,000 jobs overall linked to Port activities. The Port ranks first among the nation’s ports for volume of autos and light trucks, roll on/roll off heavy farm and construction machinery, and imported gypsum. It ranks 11th among major U.S. ports for foreign cargo handled and 10th for total foreign cargo value.

The Port has several infrastructure initiatives underway that will expand its capacity and grow additional jobs. Baltimore already is one of the few East Coast ports with the ability to handle some of the world’s largest cargo ships, and dredging was recently completed for a second, 50-foot-deep berth at the Seagirt Marine Terminal that will allow the Port to serve two of these supersized vessels simultaneously. Four additional Neo-Panamax cranes are scheduled to arrive this summer, and will be operational later this year to help service ships at that new deep berth.

The Port is also advancing plans to expand Baltimore’s Howard Street Tunnel, a project will allow the tunnel to accommodate double-stacked container rail cars. This will clear a longtime hurdle for the Port of Baltimore and give the entire East Coast seamless double-stack capacity from Maine to Florida. The project involves clearance improvements in the tunnel and at 22 other locations between Baltimore and Philadelphia. When completed, it is expected to increase the Port’s business by about 160,000 containers annually. It will generate about 6,550 construction jobs, with an additional 7,300 jobs anticipated from the increased business. The project is benefiting from public-private investment from the federal government, Maryland, CSX, and others.

In addition, MDOT MPA is reconstructing and strengthening its Dundalk Marine Terminal berths to better accommodate the increasing size of heavy farm and construction machinery. The Port of Baltimore currently handles more of this commodity than any other port in the nation.

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