
The logo for the U.S. Committee on the Marine Transportation System (CMTS) features the acronym "CMTS" in a large, bold, dark blue, three-dimensional sans-serif font. The letters have a slight shadow effect, giving them a 3D appearance.

U.S. Committee on the Marine Transportation System

History

- 1996 Intertanko Report
 - 1998 Reauthorization of USCG called for formation of a Federal task force.
 - “National Conference on the MTS” called by Secretary Slater.
 - 1999 Report to Congress, “An Assessment of the U.S. Marine Transportation System.”
 - Establishment of ICMTS and MTSNAC and regional coordination.
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Authority

President's U.S. Ocean Action Plan, issued, December 17, 2004, "Supporting Marine Transportation."

PURPOSE

“To create a partnership of Federal agencies with responsibility for the Marine Transportation System (MTS) - waterways, ports and their intermodal connections – to ensure the development and implementation of national MTS policies consistent with national needs.” [CMTS Charter]

CMTS MEMBERSHIP

- Department Secretaries from:
 - Transportation (Chair)
 - Commerce
 - Defense
 - Energy
 - Homeland Security
 - Treasury
 - State
 - Interior
 - Agriculture
 - Labor
 - Justice (Attorney General)

 - Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff;
 - Administrator, EPA;
 - Chairman, FMC; and
 - Head of MTS-related Agencies as designated by the CMTS
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Ex-officio members of the Committee, who can participate as non-voting members include the:

- Director, Office of Management and Budget;
 - Chairman, Council on Environmental Quality;
 - Assistant to the President for Homeland Security;
 - Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy; and
 - Assistant to the President for Economic Policy
Consultation
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CMTS Support/Coordinating Board

CMTS Executive Secretariat

Integrated Action Teams

Current IATs

- MTS National Strategy (USCG Lead)
 - Strategy in final stages of approval.
 - MTS Assessment (USACE lead)
 - Corps received Part 1 of Phase 1. \$\$ limitations.
 - Maritime Data Collection (MARAD lead)
 - Inventory completed. Portal being finalized.
 - Navigation Technology Integration (NOAA lead)
 - Work plan completed and underway.
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Other activities:

- Encouraging coordination between MTS related Federal Advisory Committees;
 - Addressing the HMTF;
 - Addressing impediments to MTS businesses;
 - Seeking more permanent status for the CMTS;
 - Developing a communications plan;
 - Inventory of MTS programs and budgets.
 - Role of marine transportation in NW Passage
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CMTS Response to HSRP

- HSRP Most Wanted provided to CMTS by VADM Lautenbacher, April 2007.
 - Referred to National Strategy Team.
 - Referred to Navigation Technology IAT.
 - CMTS fulfilling interest in careful crossover between Federal MTS FAC's.
 - HSRP and NAVSAC – how does NAVSAC's interest in a safe system compare with HSRP?
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Aggressively map Nation's shorelines...

- Reponse:
 - National Strategy calls for deliverance of timely, relevant, accurate navigation safety information to mariners...to improve navigation safety and efficiency to reduce risk of accidents.
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Integrate coastal mapping efforts...

- Response:
 - National Strategy calls to enhance and improve existing frameworks that plan for, operate, maintain, and mitigate risks to vessels and the environment and respond to accidents and natural disasters.
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NOAA should take a larger role in improving partnerships with other Federal agencies...

- NOAA has been a leader with CMTS efforts to collaborate and coordinate.
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Modernize heights and implement real-time water level and current observing systems...

- Response:
 - National Strategy calls to deliver timely, relevant accurate navigation safety information to mariners, including real time information systems such as [PORTS]...real time current velocity systems and those systems associated with development of [IOOS]...
 - Navigation Tech IAT to coordinate real-time observations with others such as AIS to enhance information provided to the mariner.
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Strengthen NOAA's nav services emergency response and recovery capabilities...

- Response:
 - National Strategy recommends enhancing and improving existing frameworks to mitigate risks to vessels and environment and respond to accidents and natural disasters.
 - Emerging issues proposed by the VADM and Admiral Allen requesting CMTS engagement on response. Not yet formulated.
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Disseminate NOAA's data and products for greatest public benefit...

- Response
 - National Strategy requires deliverance of timely, relevant, accurate navigation safety information to mariners.
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