PANEL II:

CARGO, PORT AND SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY
Maritime and Port Security – The Next Steps

Rear Admiral William Baumgartner

Abstract

The events of September 11th, the Madrid bombings, and the London subway attacks have driven the movement towards worldwide standards and rules for preventing and responding to security incidents. In the maritime domain these efforts include, but are not limited to, the International Ship and Port Facility (ISPS) Code, the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (SUA), and developing efforts aimed at long-range identification and tracking (LRIT) of vessels.

But, these rules and requirements are only part of the solution. Efforts at establishing regulatory regimes only provide the structure in which nation states execute strategies to accomplish risk reduction and respond to actual events. Not enough effort has been made towards the cooperation and information sharing necessary to conduct response operations. These operations are difficult to conduct, as no one nation-state has all of the necessary authorities, competencies, or capacities to serve as the sole responder in any one case. These difficulties arise due to the complex relationships inherent in the global maritime transportation system. In any one case, a vessel’s cargo may originate in one country, be loaded onto a vessel in a second, the vessel may be flagged in a third, the owner/operator of the vessel might be domiciled in a fourth country, transshipment may occur in a fifth country, with the final destination (at least for the ocean portion of the cargo’s journey) in a sixth. Achieving effective security, especially with regards to response operations, requires cooperation and information sharing, partnerships if you will, between national governments, within governments (including between agencies and different levels of governments), and between government and the private sector. It is time for the global community to examine and establish ways to increase cooperation and information sharing necessary for the execution of response operations.

The paper will examine a variety of efforts to improve cooperation and information sharing. The paper will examine the United States’ efforts at intra-governmental information sharing and cooperation (the USA PATRIOT Act and

1 US Coast Guard. The author’s PowerPoint presentation may be viewed on the accompanying CD. The admiral’s very busy schedule unfortunately did not permit him to submit a written paper for this volume.