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**PORT FREEPORT HONORED WITH COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS  
FROM PORTS ASSOCIATION AND TRANSPORTATION MARKETING GROUP**

**FREEPORT, Texas (June 19, 2008)** – Port Freeport’s communications efforts continue to be recognized as among the industry’s best, with two awards from the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) to soon join a pair of top honors from the Transportation Marketing & Communications Association (TMCA).

On Sept. 24, at the AAPA’s 2008 Annual Convention in Anchorage, Alaska, Port Freeport is slated to receive an award of merit for its Single Advertisement Foreign-Trade Zone #149 ad, as well as an award of merit for its Promotional Material 2007 Hurricane Preparedness Guide. Judges noted that the guide is a great idea and a real service to the community with a simple yet effective format. This year, AAPA’s, the Alexandria, Va.-based alliance of leading ports of the Western Hemisphere, annual communications awards competition attracted 156 entries from 33 ports in the United States and Canada.

At the TMCA’s annual conference, June 3 at Ponte Vedra Inn near Jacksonville, Florida, Port Freeport accepted two awards of merit -- one for Dockside Magazine and one for the Foreign-Trade Zone #149 advertisement. TMCA’s 2008 Compass Awards recognize North American transportation and logistics organizations for effective strategic marketing and communications programs. Minneapolis-based TMCA received 200 entries from 70 organizations.

In prior years, Port Freeport has been a frequent recipient of communications awards from both AAPA and TMCA.

“We are delighted to once again be honored for our efforts,” said Port Freeport Executive Director A.J. “Pete” Reixach, Jr. “Port Freeport is blessed with a top-flight marketing and communications team that does a highly successful job of making key audiences aware of our port’s unique attributes.”

Port Freeport currently ranks 14<sup>th</sup> among U.S. ports in international cargo tonnage handled. With a current channel of 45-foot depth, soon to be widened and deepened, just 3 miles from open Gulf of Mexico waters, Port Freeport offers more than 7,500 acres for future development. Port Freeport serves its customers and stakeholders through development and marketing of competitive world-class navigational capabilities, technically advanced marine and multimodal terminal services and port-related industrial facilities while achieving profits and creating jobs as a leading economic catalyst for the Texas Gulf Coast.

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