

**MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION BETWEEN
THE MARITIME ADMINISTRATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND
THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR MOBILITY AND TRANSPORT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION
FOR
SHORT SEA SHIPPING PROMOTION AND FACILITATION**

The Maritime Administration of the United States of America and the Directorate General for Mobility and Transport of the European Commission, herein referred to as the “Participants”;

Desiring to share a common commitment to further promote sustainable and competitive freight and passenger transport;

Recognizing that short sea shipping facilitates intra-regional trade by means of efficient and low-cost transport services;

Acknowledging that short sea shipping offers an intermodal option with the capacity to efficiently and cost effectively supplement other surface transportation modes while offering environmental benefits;

Recognizing that increased use of short sea shipping would make a distinct contribution to the reduction of CO₂ and other air pollutant emissions associated with transport;

Wishing to further explore key factors influencing the competitiveness and potential self-sustainability of short sea shipping, with due regard of the distinct geographical and economic characteristics of EU and U.S. markets;

Intending to deepen their dialogue and cooperation based on mutually shared interests to further enhance the short sea shipping operations so as to play a larger role in both continents' transportation systems;

Intend to cooperate as follows:

Section 1

1. The Participants affirm that short sea shipping development is to greatly benefit from sharing knowledge and best practices, and help to identify key issues for future successful policies. The objective of this Memorandum of Cooperation, hereinafter “Memorandum,” is to initiate a regular dialogue for the exchange of information, ideas, best practices, integration of intelligent transportation technologies, and success stories, and to gain familiarity with the progress of the Participants’ ongoing short sea shipping promotion and research policies.
2. This Memorandum is not intended to create any binding obligations under international law.

Section 2

The Participants intend to engage in cooperative bilateral activities for the promotion of efficient and safe short sea shipping policies and practices, taking into consideration the further development of ports, intermodality, logistics, environmental challenges and competitiveness.

Section 3

1. In implementing the provisions of this Memorandum, the following forms of cooperation may be included:

- Hold workshops, at a mutually determined time and location, dedicated to discussing and sharing experiences in promoting short sea shipping from a public perspective. The initial workshops should offer an opportunity to exchange views on short sea shipping objectives and policies;
- Organization of joint conferences, seminars, meetings, outreach, education, and promotional programs;
- Support for collaboration projects and demonstrations, including joint research projects, studies, and reports;
- Facilitation of linkages among representatives from academia, industry, and government to promote the exchange of best practices and short sea shipping information and data likely to be of interest to the Participants;
- Such other forms of cooperation as the Participants may deem appropriate

2. Each Participant plans to name a Principal Coordinator to serve as a point of contact for cooperative activities under this Memorandum.

Section 4

All cooperative activities under this Memorandum are subject to the availability of funds and to the applicable laws and regulations of the two Participants.

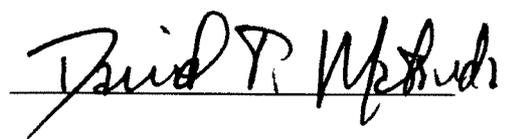
Section 5

The Participants intend that all non-proprietary technical information obtained through the implementation of this Memorandum should be available to both Participants to the extent permissible under their respective laws, regulations, and other measures.

Section 6

1. Cooperation under this Memorandum may commence upon its signature by the Participants. Either Participant may discontinue its cooperation at any time, but should notify the other Participant in writing six months in advance of its desired discontinuation date. The two Participants intend to consult to determine the disposition of any cooperative activities not fully completed at the time of such discontinuance.

2. The Participants plan to meet at least biennially to review the status of cooperation under this Memorandum. This Memorandum may be updated and modified in writing at each successive consultation, as appropriate and as mutually determined.

Handwritten signature of David P. Mohr in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

For the Maritime Administration of the
United States of America:

Handwritten signature of Matthias Rueter in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

For the Directorate General for Mobility and
Transport of the European Commission:

Signed in Brussels on July 1, 2011