Coastal and Marine Operators (CAMO) working group provides update on marine pipeline damage prevention and awareness initiative using AIS technology

New Orleans, LA-August 16, 2012--The Coastal and Marine Operators (CAMO) group is working on a joint pilot project with the United States Coast Guard (USCG) to utilize automatic identification system (AIS) technology for monitoring vessel activity in close proximity to submerged pipelines. The project is part of a key CAMO initiative focused on marine pipeline damage prevention and awareness.

As additional information, CAMO was developed several years ago with a goal to diminish the gap between onshore and offshore pipeline damage prevention efforts. A key component of this group’s mission is to educate marine stakeholders and the public about the risks that damage to offshore utilities and pipelines can pose to personal safety and the environment. Although pipeline operators have vigorous inspection and maintenance programs to insure the integrity of their assets, the risk of third-party damage to a pipeline is a continual threat.

A solution with which CAMO is currently involved is the joint pilot project with PortVision and the USCG. Through a grant partnership with the Port of Fourchon and the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), an application is being developed that will warn AIS-equipped vessels stopping or anchoring near gas and liquids pipelines that their activity represents a potential safety risk.

###