



**For immediate release
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CALIFORNIA TRUCKING ASSOCIATION STATEMENT REGARDING PORTS WORKSHOPS

“The Workshops Lead To More Questions Than Answers”

West Sacramento – September 12, 2008 – This week both the Port of Long Beach and the Port of Los Angeles held “Clean Truck Workshops” about the “Clean Truck Program” for beneficial cargo owners, ocean carriers, customs brokers, and freight forwarders and other logistic professionals. Port staffs were on hand to present the details of the program and answer questions. The Clean Truck Program is scheduled to begin on October 1st.

Following today’s workshop held by the Port of Los Angeles and a similar workshop held by the Port of Long Beach on Thursday the California Trucking Association released the following statement. “These workshops were designed to address concerns but instead left many with more questions than answers,” stated Julie Sauls, spokeswoman for the California Trucking Association, “the ports lack of preparation for this program has many in the industry concerned and wondering whether the ports are able to carry out implementing this program in a fair and efficient manner.”

The ports have yet to demonstrate that they are prepared to implement this program in a few weeks and these workshops illustrate the confusion and frustration surrounding the Program. Members in the audience who came seeking answers were told that responses to their questions would be posted on the port website.

Port officials have offered incentives to large trucking companies as a way to induce them into operating in the ports. This offer is left to the discretion of the port officials who continue to hand pick companies to operate in the ports. Today when members of the audience questioned the port staff and shared their desire to be self employed and reach for the “American dream” the response they received from port staff was “we appreciate your comment and hope you submitted an application.” It is still unknown how many Californians will be out of job if this program moves forward

In a related matter the Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a request for additional information from the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles on their Clean Truck Program. It is unlikely that the ports will produce the information requested and allow the FMC to analyze the program in time for the October 1 start date.

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