Aleutian Islands – Alaska

Emergency Towing Systems

September 1, 2009
AIRA Advisory Panel Meeting
Unalaska, Alaska
Selendang Ayu
Background

- 2007 Near grounding M/V Salico Frigo (March)
- Mayor of Unalaska convened a Workgroup
  - Develop emergency towing capability locally
  - Purchase of equipment
  - Development of Procedures Manual
  - Training Video
  - Annual Training & Equipment Inspection
Aleutians Shipping Route - Unimak Pass
Vessel Traffic Statistics

- 4,470 large commercial vessel transits through Unimak Pass in 2007:
  - 3,580 vessels westbound (85%)
  - 890 vessels eastbound (15%)
  - 3,130 vessels bound to/from U.S. ports (70%)
  - 1,340 vessels bound to/from Canadian ports (30%)

- Number of transits of vessels involved in local trade tracked in and around Unimak Pass in fiscal year 2007: 1,720 (1,435 fishing vessels, or 80 percent of the total)
Emergency Towing System Components
600’ x 7/8” Spectra Messenger Line

Lighted Pick-up & Thimble Buoy

Line Gun

Components
Ship’s End  Tug’s End

500’ by 7” Plasma Towing Line
Packing
Deployment
Ship to Tug
Ship to Tug
Ship Hauling
Tug to Ship Deployment
ETS Training & System Expansion

* May 2008- IMO Regulation Revision require all ships to carry emergency towing procedures, towing arrangement, equipment inventory, means of communicating

* August 2008 Aleutian ETS Training
  * Update Procedures Manual
  * Tandem Tow Tactic

* October 2008- ETS System staged in Kodiak

* September 2009 Aleutian ETS Training