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AMERICA'S PORT DOCUMENTARY SERIES, FEATURING THE PORT OF LOS ANGELES, PREMIERES THIS SUNDAY, AIRS MONDAYS AT 10 p.m. ON NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL

Eight-Part Series Captures the Massive Cargo Operations, 24/7 Security and "Green-Growth" Initiatives that Underpin Operations at the Port of Los Angeles

SAN PEDRO, Calif. -- April 4, 2008 -- Consumers nationwide are about to get an in-depth look at the complex, water-borne supply chain that stocks America's store shelves and often runs through the Port of Los Angeles, the nation's largest container port. On Sunday, April 6, 2008, at 10 p.m. ET/PT, before moving to its regular time of Mondays at 10 p.m. ET/PT, the National Geographic Channel (NGC) premieres **America's Port**, a new eight-part weekly series that delivers an insider's view of the massive Port of Los Angeles complex and the intrepid individuals charged with keeping it running smoothly and securely 365 days a year.

While Los Angeles is known more for entertainment than global trade, 20 miles south of downtown L.A. is one the most important trade gateways in the world. It's a city within a city, brimming with a workforce of thousands and potential crises 'round the clock: longshoremen urgently offloading cargo; customs officials investigating suspicious containers; a port pilot circumnavigating busy and unpredictable waterways; police divers searching for missing persons; a counterterrorism chief inspecting target points — and a tireless woman at the helm of the Los Angeles Harbor Department.

"I think people will be amazed at the sheer magnitude of our operations," said Port of Los Angeles (L.A. Harbor Department) Executive Director, **Geraldine Knatz, Ph.D.** "And I'm certain they will embrace the individual character, dedication and pride of the people who work here, as they get a solid sense of the inherent danger, security measures and daily pressures of getting it right, every time."

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At the epicenter of the Port's whirlwind of activity, Dr. Knatz is the Port's first female executive director and has been credited with making environmentalism a top priority — pledging to curb the port's air pollution from trucks, ships, locomotives and other equipment by at least 45 percent in five years as part of the San Pedro Bay Ports Clean Air Action Plan, L.A.'s unprecedented clean air initiative in collaboration with the neighboring Port of Long Beach.

America's Port provides an unblinking view of this vibrant and colorful nerve center for global trade. Gain access to the high-tech control rooms that coordinate thousands of calculated ship movements each year. Climb aboard a container ship with chief port pilot **Michael Rubino**, who stays calm while chaos erupts around him, and comb through cargo with U.S. Customs Port Director **Todd Hoffman**. Stay alongside the LA Port Police, one of the few police forces in the nation dedicated exclusively to 24/7 port activities, as they investigate a rape case, conduct bomb sweeps under wharfs or dive into the harbor in search of missing persons.

Episodes of **America's Port** will take viewers behind the scenes of the port — from bomb squad deployment in a post-9/11 world, to capturing counterfeits and illicit drugs, to the massive “green growth” campaign focused on eliminating hundreds of tons of vessel, train and truck pollution. Hear the personal stories and candid accounts from those in the heart of the operations who have seen and done it all.

America's Port is being produced for National Geographic Channel by Original Productions, the acclaimed producers of “Ice Road Truckers” and “Deadliest Catch.” For Original Productions, executive producer is Thom Beers, producer is Molly Mayock. For the National Geographic Channel, executive producer is Howard Swartz and senior vice president of special programming is Michael Cascio. Executive vice president of content is Steve Burns.

About National Geographic Channel (NGC)

Based at the National Geographic Society headquarters in Washington, D.C., the National Geographic Channel (NGC) is a joint venture between National Geographic Ventures (NGV) and Fox Cable Networks (FCN). Since launching in January 2001, NGC initially earned some of the fastest distribution growth in the history of cable and more recently the fastest ratings growth in television. The network celebrated its fifth anniversary January 2006 with the launch of NGC HD which provides the spectacular imagery that National Geographic is known for in stunning high-definition. NGC has carriage with all of the nation's major cable and satellite television providers, making it currently available to more than 67 million homes. For more information, please visit www.nationalgeographic.com/channel.

About the Port of Los Angeles

The Port of Los Angeles is America's premier port and has a strong commitment to developing innovative strategic and sustainable operations that benefit the economy as well as the quality of life for the region and the nation it serves. As the leading seaport in North America in terms of shipping container volume and cargo value, the Port generates 919,000 regional jobs and \$39.1 billion in annual wages and tax revenues. A proprietary department of the City of Los Angeles, the Port is self-supporting and does not receive taxpayer dollars. The Port of Los Angeles – A cleaner port. A brighter future.

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