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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## VESSEL SPEED REDUCTION PROGRAM ELIMINATES 100 TONS OF EMISSIONS FROM AIR IN THREE MONTHS



425 S. Palos Verdes Street San Pedro, CA 90731 Tel: 310/732-3508 After 5:00 p.m.: 310/732-3500 **SAN PEDRO, Calif.** – The Port of Los Angeles announced today that the voluntary Vessel Speed Reduction Program (VSRP), which calls for ships to reduce their speed to 12 knots or less within a 20-mile radius of the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, saved more than 100 tons of nitrogen oxide (NOx) from going into the air in the first quarter of 2005. This translates into an average daily savings of 1.1 tons of NOx.

"We are very pleased with the amount of NOx being eliminated with the Vessel Speed Reduction program," said Port Interim Executive Director Bruce E. Seaton. "But we can do better. We want the compliance zone increased to 40 nautical miles, which is the influence area used by the Southern California Air Quality Management District to determine basin emissions."

The ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach implemented the voluntary VSRP in 2001 as a measure contributing to the ozone reduction goals in the 2003 State Implementation Plan for Marine Vessel Emissions Control Strategies. Currently, nearly 70% of shipping lines calling at the ports participate in the voluntary program.

The Port of Los Angeles is America's premier port. As the leading container port in the nation and a critical hub in the international supply chain, the Port generates thousands of stable jobs and billions of dollars in annual wages and tax revenues. The Port of Los Angeles also places a high priority on responsible growth initiatives combined with high security, environmental stewardship and community outreach. The Port of Los Angeles is a proprietary, self-supported department of the City of Los Angeles. The Port of Los Angeles. . . Anchoring a bright future.