

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**PORT OF LOS ANGELES NAMES NEW ASSISTANT CHIEF
HARBOR ENGINEERS, CHIEF INSPECTOR**

SAN PEDRO, Calif. – Port of Los Angeles employees Kurt Arend and James A. Davis have been promoted to assistant chief harbor engineers and John Kostrencich has been promoted to chief inspector.

“Each of these gentlemen brings strong leadership skills, years of Port experience and technical backgrounds to their new positions,” said Stacey Jones, Director of Engineering Development for the Port of Los Angeles. “Their promotions are hard-earned and well-deserved.”

Long Beach resident Kurt Arend, head of the Engineering Division’s Rights-of-Way and Permits Section, was promoted from harbor engineer to assistant chief harbor engineer. Arend, a 17-year City employee, started his career with the Department of Water and Power as a civil engineering assistant in 1988 and transferred to the Port the following year. As part of his new responsibilities, he has been appointed general manager of the Port’s Waterfront Red Car Line, a vintage trolley line that has been in operation at the Port since July 2003. Throughout his career in the Port’s Engineering Division, he has managed major construction projects, including the APL, NYK and Evergreen Container Terminals.

Arend holds a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering from New Mexico State University at Las Cruces, and is a licensed professional engineer in the State of California. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineering, Construction Specification Institute, American Public Works Association and Port of Los Angeles Speakers Bureau.

Harbor City resident James A. Davis, head of the Construction Division’s Contract Administration Section, also was promoted from harbor engineer to assistant chief harbor engineer.

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After 5:00 p.m.:

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Port Engineering and Construction Appointments 2-2-2

Davis, a 19-year Port employee, started his career at the Port as a student engineer and worked his way up the ranks to harbor engineer. He spent 14 years of his career in the Port's Engineering Division, overseeing the construction of major capital improvement projects, including the development of the 484-acre Pier 400 container terminal and Berth 100 China Shipping container terminal. In his new role, he will assist the chief harbor engineer in overseeing the contract administration, inspection, survey and testing functions of the Construction Division.

Davis holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from California State University, Long Beach and master's degree in business administration from California State University, Dominguez Hills. He also holds certificates in management from the UCLA Executive Program and in construction project management from California State University, Dominguez Hills. He is a member of the National Society of Professional Engineers, American Society of Civil Engineers, Construction Management Association of America, American Public Works Association and Port of Los Angeles Speakers Bureau.

Rancho Palos Verdes resident John Kostrencich was promoted from principal inspector to chief inspector. Kostrencich, who has more than 25 years of Port experience, began his career as a student engineer in 1972. He also worked as an assistant inspector for the City of Los Angeles Departments of Public Works and Building and Safety.

During his tenure with the Port, Kostrencich has overseen the construction and development of major facilities, from Pier 400 to the San Pedro waterfront, including the Harbor Boulevard Parkway project currently under construction. He was instrumental in keeping the construction of the Los Angeles Cruise Ship Promenade on schedule, which took less than one year to complete, from groundbreaking in February 2004 to grand opening in December 2004. He also played key inspection roles in the APL container terminal and YTI terminal wharf/backland improvement projects.

The Port of Los Angeles is the number one containerport in the nation and the eighth busiest in the world. The award-winning Engineering and Construction Divisions are two of the largest divisions at the Port, tasked with the planning, design, project management and construction of marine facilities at the 7500-acre complex.

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