

## **ATTENTION COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN !!!**



As of October 16, 2012, The United States Coast Guard voluntary dockside safety exam becomes **mandatory** for all commercial State registered and Documented fishing vessels operating beyond 3 nautical miles from the territorial sea baseline. This requirement was mandated by the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010. This includes any full time commercial fishing vessel as well as recreational vessels while operating with a commercial permit to sell their catch. If you have a current decal, it will remain valid until the expiration date. For all other commercial F/Vs, you should schedule an exam in the near future. The Coast Guard will accommodate exam requests to the best of our ability with the proviso that there are approximately 6,000-8,000 vessels that may need exams. It should be stressed that currently there are no additional safety equipment requirements. There will be additional regulation in the future, but for now the decal will be issued based upon compliance with the safety regulations that have been in effect for 20 years.

The Coast Guard recognizes the hardships the fishing industry is currently facing and we will do all we can to facilitate implementation of this new mandate whose sole purpose is to make the industry a safer place to work.

Please contact the Coast Guard safety examiner nearest you from the list below for more information or to schedule an exam.

### **Dockside exams are free of charge**



#### **Maine and New Hampshire:**

Kevin Plowman 207-780-3256  
Gerry Moores 207-338-8395

#### **Newburyport to Manomet:**

John Buckley 617-223-3045

#### **Provincetown MA to Watch Hill, RI:**

Kevin Coyle 508- 991- 6812

#### **Connecticut and Long Island Sound:**

Mark Dixon 203-468-4437

#### **New York and New Jersey:**

MSSE2 Gilberto Gonzalez 718-354-2143