

BRIDGEPORT

PORT

AUTHORITY®

NEDC Partnerships

May 2013

Where, Who, Why

- Located in Bridgeport, Connecticut
- Bridgeport Port Authority was formed in 1993
 - A quasi-public agency empowered by State statute 7-329 a-u
- To promote the trade and commerce, use and development, of waterfront assets for Port and Maritime Uses/Users.



Challenges

- More than 95% of Bridgeport's waterfront is privately owned
 - Mixed uses, historic uses
 - Steel Mills, manufacturing
 - Brownfields
 - Inherited issues
 - “Not my problem”



Challenges

- Fear of the Unknown
 - What are we going to find when we put a shovel in the ground?
 - What is the best way to balance growth and minimize/reduce environmental footprints



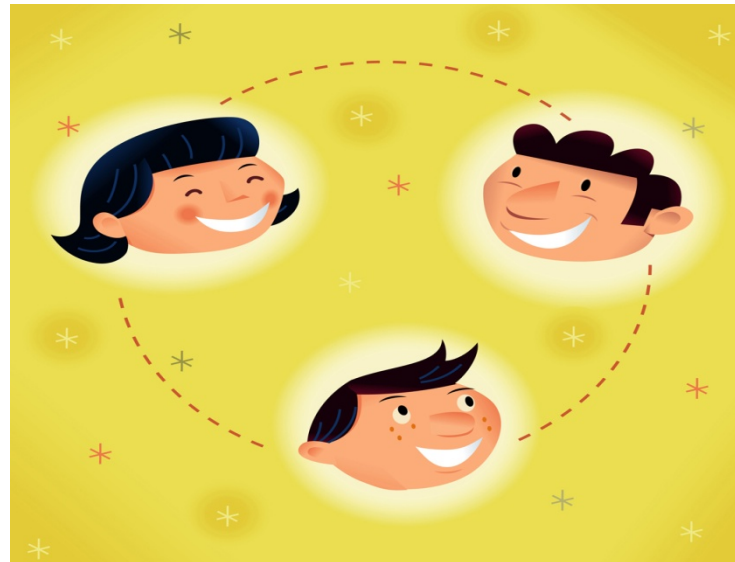
A first step...

- Cold call to Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP), offering assistance
- DEEP visited Port of Bridgeport
 - Understand the operations within the Port
 - Understand the concerns of the Port Authority
 - Understand the capabilities and resources available
 - Determine ways DEEP can assist



And the next step...

- CT DEEP referred BPA to EPA's Northeast Diesel Collaborative (NEDC) Port Group
 - Monthly, Bi-monthly group “open” conference calls on variety of “green” subjects



NEDC



- EPA organized, but really lead by participants
 - Participants request info/speakers on topics
 - Focus community outreach efforts (i.e. trucking industry)
 - Network among ourselves
 - Common companies operating in several ports
 - Gives other industries opportunity to talk to a broad, and interested, group

Looking Outside The Box



- Community outreach
 - EPA sponsored Community Action for Renewed Environment (CARE)
 - Working with local CARE group
 - What we've done, What we're doing
 - What are their concerns
 - Meeting and talking with non-maritime industries
 - Construction firms
 - Trucking Industry

Small Steps = Big Difference

- Working with DEEP and EPA
 - Changes perceptions, takes away fear, builds knowledge and know how
- Building Partnerships
 - Teaching each other
 - Understanding challenges
- Accomplishing Goals
- **SUCCESS!**

