

**Quality Partnership Initiative**  
**American Association of Port Authorities and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**  
**Communication/Collaboration Best Practices**

Port Name: NY & NJ  
Corps District: New York

POC:  
POC: Tom Shea

Best Practice: Monthly Construction Partnering Meetings

Purpose: Bring all involved in a construction contract together monthly to resolve issues and keep all parties informed.

Explanation: The NY & NJ Harbor Deepening Project involved 20 construction contracts over a 10 year period. Given that the channels had to remain open to traffic and concerns from the environmental and local residents, each contract was unique and had multiple moving parts that required cool coordination between the USACE, its contractor, the PANYNJ, the USCG, pilots and berth/terminal operators.

Examples of Results: Issues were resolved early and potential issues identified. The close collaboration resulted in all the contracts being completed on time with minimal impacts to the terminals and no accidents. One example was the close coordination to identify construction sequencing in areas that required rock blasting. This required balancing the needs of the terminals, shipping lines and the rock drilling and blast barge to ensure that the channel remained open while maintaining the high level of safety.

Why this Process is Important to the Port and the Corps: The Port of NY & NJ is the third largest container port in the United States and the first in petroleum products. As the largest economic engine in the region, it was imperative to complete the project on schedule.

Attachments (if any)