Rebuilding the Port of New Orleans After Hurricane Katrina

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New Orleans and Louisiana play a vital role in the world economy because of the shipping and oil industries.

With 6,000 ships & 150,000 barges per year, the Lower Mississippi River is the world’s largest port complex.

Gulf of Mexico provides 44% of the oil and about 50% of the gas that fuels the United States.
What Katrina Did to New Orleans

REBUILDING THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS
2 million people evacuated the Gulf Coast

350,000 homes were destroyed

150,000 homes severely damaged

1,800 people died
Superdome & New Orleans Arena
The federal levee system protecting the City was breached in several places.

About 80% of the city was flooded.

All flood water had to be pumped out of the city.
What Katrina Did to the Port of New Orleans

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France Road
Jourdan Road Terminal
Produce Warehouse Catches of Fire
How We Fought Back

REBUILDING THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS
USS Iwo Jima Docked at Julia Cruise Terminal
Harbor Police Rescue Missions
The Challenge of Restarting the Port
MARAD’s Floating Dormitories
Generators used to ‘Dewater’ the City

Port of New Orleans
Lykes Flyer

Port of New Orleans
Lessons Learned

REBUILDING THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS
Preparation Plan vs. Recovery Plan

- Port had prepared for lots of hurricanes
- Preparations include battening down the hatches
- Worked to reduce damage to life and property
- Refined the preparation plan on an annual basis

- Did not fully consider how to speed recovery if ‘the big one hit’
- No pre-determined satellite office
- No redundant communications
- Had to jump through many hoops to ensure continuity of operations
## Satellite Office

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>During Katrina</th>
<th>Disaster Recovery Plan</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• First satellite office was in Atlanta.</td>
<td>• Established one satellite office in Shreveport, La.</td>
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<td>• Second satellite office in Port Manchac, La.</td>
<td>• Can retrieve data, files, etc through secure computer link.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Had to retrieve records, files etc from headquarters</td>
<td>• Employees needed for emergency operations either stay in New Orleans or evacuate to Shreveport.</td>
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<td>• Employees had evacuated to the four corners of the map</td>
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## Communications

### During Katrina
- Bought satellite phones that never worked.
- Local cell phones didn’t work, but those from other area codes did.
- Established conference calls to coordinate efforts.
- Harbor Police was on a different radio system than other police agencies.

### Disaster Recovery Plan
- Issue emergency phones during hurricane season as a backup.
- Conduct twice daily conference call from New Orleans and satellite office.
- Harbor Police on same radio system with other police agencies.
- All employees must tell us evacuation plans, and how we can reach them.
Emergency Housing

- U.S. Maritime Administration now has a policy to use its vessels to help aid in Port disaster recovery.

- We contact the Maritime Administration before a hurricane to touch base, make sure that the paperwork is in order to quickly deploy vessels if needed.
If you don’t have
A Disaster Preparation Plan
AND
A Disaster Recovery Plan
YOU ARE VULNERABLE