

Maritime Administration Announces \$ 4.9 Million to Strengthen U.S. Shipyard Competitiveness

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Maritime Administration (MARAD) on April 18, 2016 awarded \$4.9 million in grants to support capital improvements at nine small shipyards located throughout the United States. Provided through the Small Shipyard Grant Program, the funding supports industrial modernizations that increase productivity, allowing our Nation’s small shipyards to compete more effectively in the global marketplace.

“Small shipyard grants do more than just improve shipyard infrastructure and equipment or add to the bottom line,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. “They also create jobs and new opportunities, and they strengthen local economies.”

Small shipyards play a significant role in our Nation’s shipbuilding and repair activity. The facilities vary in size, from family-owned businesses employing a few dozen workers, to multifaceted establishments with hundreds of employees. The grants, which were primarily available to U.S. shipyards with less than 600 production employees, will fund a variety of projects including infrastructure improvements and equipment upgrades to increase operational competitiveness and quality vessel construction.

“U.S. shipyards produce what are unquestionably some of the best-built vessels in the world,” said Maritime Administrator Paul “Chip” Jaenichen. “The grants awarded today will help ensure that ‘Built in America’ remains an international shipbuilding standard.”

MARAD received 118 grant applications requesting \$80 million in assistance, far exceeding the \$4.9 million made available for the grants. Since 2009, the Obama administration has provided more than \$167 million to help U.S. shipyards and their workers reap the benefits of increased production capabilities delivered by emerging technologies and highly skilled workers.

A complete list of shipyard grant recipients follows:

Gravois Aluminum Boats, LLC, Jeanerette, LA	\$582,410 for a big top portable shelter and a transporter.
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Chesapeake Shipbuilding, Salisbury, MD	\$545,505 for a mobile rough terrain crane and infrastructure improvements.
Eastern Shipbuilding Group, Panama City, FL	\$529,868 for a precision cutting system.
Marine Group Boat Works, Chula Vista, CA	\$414,954 for a gantry crane and metal working equipment.
Diversified Marine, Portland, OR	\$304,846 for a boom lifts, scissor lifts, welding equipment and other equipment.
Conrad Orange Shipyard, Orange, TX	\$604,505, for LNG tank building and pipe welding equipment.
Yank Marine, Dorchester, NJ	\$386,250 for a 70-ton rough terrain crane.
Yager Marine, Owensboro, KY	\$786,673 for a 1200-ton drydock.
American Shipyard Company LLC, Newport, RI	\$744,990 for a 200-ton travelift.

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