

## Virginia Port Authority

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### NEWS RELEASE

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## Accident at NNMT Leaves One Hospitalized

**Norfolk, VA** – An accident at 8:45 a.m. Monday, Jan. 29, at Newport News Marine Terminal (NNMT) has left one man hospitalized. Immediately following the accident the victim was flown from the marine terminal to Norfolk Sentara General Hospital by helicopter; the extent of his injuries is unclear.

The victim, a 43-year-old member of the International Longshoreman's Union, was driving a "lowboy," which is a piece of equipment commonly used in handling cargo on a trailer, when the accident occurred. The lowboy was towing a trailer loaded with lumber.

According to Virginia Port Authority Police Department incident report, the victim was maneuvering the lowboy down a cargo ramp inside the Saudi Abha, a large commercial cargo vessel docked at NNMT.

Firefighters from Newport News Fire Department were summoned to the scene and found the victim with injuries that were the result of him having been pinned between the vehicle and the vessel's bulkhead.

The cause of the accident is under investigation. The Occupational Health and Safety Administration, a federal agency, will further investigate the accident.

The victim's name is not being released.

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**The Virginia Port Authority (VPA) is an agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia, reporting to the state Secretary of Transportation. The VPA owns and operates four general cargo facilities on behalf of the state: Norfolk International Terminals, Portsmouth Marine Terminal, Newport News Marine Terminal and the Virginia Inland Port in Warren County. The terminals are operated by Virginia International Terminals, Inc. (VIT) the non-stock, non-profit operating company. The VPA, through terminal earnings generated by VIT, is operationally self-sufficient. The VPA and correlating maritime industry is responsible for 165,000 jobs, \$762 million in business revenues and \$61 million in state and local taxes throughout the Commonwealth.**