

Virginia Port Authority

600 World Trade Center
Norfolk, VA 23510
(757) 683-8000
www.vaports.com

News Release

Jan. 30, 2008

Contact: Joe Harris, Media Relations Manager

Tel: (757) 683-2137 / (800) 446-8098

Cell: (757) 617-0006

Fax: (757) 683-2897

jharris@vaports.com

Linda Ford, Director of Port Promotion

Tel: (757) 683-2140 / (800) 446-8098

Cell: (757) 615-7704

lford@vaports.com

VPA Earns its Third Distinguished Sustained Performance Award from Elizabeth River Project

NORFOLK, VA – For its ongoing and innovative efforts to keep the Elizabeth River and its surrounding environment clean, the Virginia Port Authority [VPA] in January earned its third consecutive Sustained Distinguished Performance award from the Elizabeth River Project.

“I always talk about our overall business plan being built upon a three-legged stool: social responsibility, being economically vital within the community and being stewards of the environment,” said Jerry A. Bridges, the VPA’s executive director. “This award – and the fact that we have earned three years running – signifies a genuine effort on our part to take care of the waterway that is so vital to what we do. We know there is a lot more work to be done, this is an ongoing commitment.”

The Elizabeth River Project [ERP] is a non-profit organization dedicated to restoring the Elizabeth River to the highest practical level of environmental quality through government, business and community partnerships. Each year the ERP, through its River Star awards, honors those companies, communities, individuals and businesses that have done their part

to take care of the river, its shoreline and its tributaries. The VPA earned its first River Star award in 2001.

This year's award recognized the VPA for voluntarily switching to ULSD [ultra low sulfur diesel] fuel in port-owned cargo handling equipment three years ahead of a federal mandate; for an overall reduction in emissions through the implementation of a port-wide chassis pool; and for serving as a mentor to the river's newest user, APM Portsmouth container cargo terminal.

#

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 343,000 jobs and \$41 billion in total revenues for Commonwealth.