



NEWS From -

Conference of Professional Operators
for Response Towing

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**C-PORT Announces New Advocacy Award!
Seeks Nominations for Three Prestigious Awards**

C-PORT, Conference of Professional Operators for Response Towing, is seeking nominations for three prestigious awards to be presented at the 29th C-PORT Conference and Membership Meeting being held on January 11- January 13, 2016. One award is new to the association, the C-PORT Advocacy Award along the AFRAS Lifesaving Award and the C-PORT Compass Rose Award.

C-PORT Advocacy Award – This newly created award is a way to recognize a deserving C-PORT member for their service to the association and to the marine assistance industry through advocacy and leadership. It will be presented annually to honor the memory of Capt. Joe Frohnhoefer, one of the founders of C-PORT. “The marine assistance industry lost a great advocate when Capt. Joe Frohnhoefer, founder of Sea Tow International and one of the founders of C-PORT, passed away this past March,” explained Tina Cardone, executive director, C-PORT. “The association wants to honor his memory and promote his advocacy zeal for our industry through this award”. C-PORT’s mission is to represent, promote, protect and defend its member companies through communication, relationship development and education. “Joe did all those things with a drive and a passion”, added Terry Hill, chairman, C-PORT.

This award will be presented to the C-PORT member who demonstrates political involvement by actively promoting C-PORT to their Congressional leaders, to State and Local public agencies, and to the maritime industry. Nominees understand this is industry support rather than individual business elevation.

Nominees for the C-PORT Advocacy Award may be sent directly to C-PORT for consideration. Include a brief description of the advocacy service(s) this member executed during 2015. This award will be presented at the C-PORT Banquet and Gala, January 12, 2016, during the 29th C-PORT Conference and Membership Meeting being held at Jupiter, FL.

AFRAS Lifesaving Award - Going on its sixth year, C-PORT is pleased to announce that AFRAS (Association for Rescue at Sea) will continue its program to annually recognize a deserving member of C-PORT for their rescue efforts. The Association for Rescue at Sea (AFRAS) was formed in 1976 to foster traditional maritime search and rescue values through suitable recognition of deserving personnel, and to facilitate cooperation in search and rescue. The Award will be conferred on a C-PORT member individual or group of individuals who perform exceptional acts in attempting to save life in the maritime environment. Instances where the rescuer places their own life at risk will be given highest consideration. The Award may be given posthumously.

Tina Cardone, executive director, C-PORT, stated, “This will be the sixth year for this celebrated award. The C-PORT membership has many heroes, and we are grateful for the recognition they receive for their selfless deeds in serving the boating public.” For this year’s award, the rescue must have occurred between November 1, 2014 and September 30, 2015.

Nominations are to include a full description of the circumstances and events giving rise to the nomination and include such factors as:



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- Location of the incident
- Prevailing weather conditions
- Skill displayed
- Determination to conduct the rescue operation
- Exceptional courage demonstrated
- Degree of risk involved

Nominations are sent directly to C-PORT. Once the nominations are received, AFRAS will evaluate them on their merits and the award, if one is recognized, will be presented by AFRAS at the C-PORT Conference Banquet and Gala, January 12, 2016, during the 29th C-PORT Conference and Membership Meeting being held at Jupiter, FL.

C-PORT Compass Rose Award - C-PORT is seeking nominations for the C-PORT Compass Rose Award. This award is presented to someone who is dedicated to making the marine assistance industry better through their hard work and desire to make boating an enjoyable experience for everyone. The recipient is a leader with true direction, high personal standards and will go above and beyond in any situation.

“The concept for this award came to C-PORT through one of their members,” explained Cardone. “Barrie McCune, owner of Poseidon Marine Towing and Salvage/TowBoatU.S. Islamorada tragically lost her son during a call to assist a boater. She wanted to honor his devotion and commitment to an industry he loved.” C-PORT created the Compass Rose Award to honor all who show pride, outstanding commitment and true direction to the betterment of the marine assistance industry and the boating community.

This will be the fifth year for this special award. Nominations for this distinctive award may be sent directly to C-PORT, including the reasons this person should be considered for the Compass Rose Award. This award will be presented at the C-PORT Banquet and Gala, January 12, 2016, during the 29th C-PORT Conference and Membership Meeting being held at Jupiter, FL.

Cardone asked that nominations for all awards be emailed to tcardone@cport.us or mailed directly to the C-PORT office at 3640-B3 North Federal Hwy #136, Lighthouse Point, FL 33064. “Nominations may be sent at any time so long as they are received no later than October 15, 2015,” stated Cardone. “This allows sufficient time for the vetting of the nominations.”

C-PORT was founded in 1986 to act as a liaison between the marine assistance industry and public agencies and organizations involved with boating safety, marine assistance, marine salvage and other marine-related operations. Our members are dedicated to providing prompt, professional and timely assistance to all boaters and to actively partner and cooperate with local law enforcement and U.S. Coast Guard. They are professionals, dedicated to the growth and development of their respective businesses and committed to furthering the advancement of our waterways and the boating community. For more information, contact C-PORT at (954) 261-2012 or visit www.cport.us.