

AMERICAN SALVAGE ASSOCIATION NEWS RELEASE
801 North Quincy Street, Suite 200
Arlington, VA 22203

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Contact: Debra Colbert,
American Salvage Association,
301/565-5329; dacomm@aol.com

PROFESSIONAL MARINER'S
SAMUEL PLIMSOLL AWARD
TO BE PRESENTED AT NATIONAL MARITIME SALVAGE
CONFERENCE, SEPTEMBER 9-11, 2003

Washington, DC - The editors of *Professional Mariner* magazine have announced that the 2003 Samuel Plimsoll Award, given for outstanding service by individuals and organizations in promoting marine safety and safe ship and port operations, will be presented at the National Maritime Salvage Conference, September 9-11, 2003. Sponsored by American Salvage Association (ASA), the conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City Hotel in Arlington, VA.

The 2003 recipients of the Plimsoll Award are the Columbia River Bar Pilots in the category of outstanding organization and Capt. Dominic Calicchio in the individual winner category. The Columbia River Bar Pilots are the first pilots group in the country to use helicopters to transport their personnel on and off ships in a variety of weather and sea conditions. Capt. Calicchio, a Coast Guard captain who died earlier this year, will receive the award posthumously for bringing about a number of industry safety reforms. Capt. Calicchio's work was described in the book, *Until the Sea Shall Release Them*, by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Robert Frump.

"We are very pleased that the National Maritime Salvage Conference has been chosen as the venue at which this important safety award is bestowed," said J. Arnold Witte, President & CEO of Donjon Marine and President of ASA. "As we continually look at issues of maritime security and industry safety, the Plimsoll Award is a reminder that we must recognize and honor those who have made a difference," he continued.

Conference keynote speakers include RADM Thomas Gilmour, Assistant Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard; RADM Larry Hereth, Director of Port Security, U.S. Coast Guard; Chet Lunner, Associate Under Secretary for Maritime and Land Security, Transportation Security Administration; and CAPT James Wilkins, Supervisor of Salvage for the U.S. Navy, among others.

For a complete schedule of conference topics, and to register on-line, visit www.americansalvage.org. *Professional Mariner* can be reached at 207/822-4350 or at www.professionalmariner.com.

The American Salvage Association is a trade association promoting professionalism and improving marine casualty response in American coastal and inland waters.