



Port Community Information Bulletin # 28-24

Sector St. Petersburg, Florida (866) 881-1392

Release Date: October 8, 2024

PORT CONDITION ZULU (12 HOUR ALERT): HURRICANE MILTON

Due to the possibility of gale force winds (39-47 MPH) entering the Tampa Bay area within 12 hours, the Captain of the Port (COTP) is ordering **Port Condition ZULU for the ports of Tampa, Manatee, St. Petersburg, and Ft. Myers effective on October 8, 2024 at 0800 (8:00 a.m.)**. The COTP will continue to evaluate weather predictions for the region as Hurricane MILTON approaches the west coast of Florida as a major Hurricane.

Prohibited Operations: All vessel movements and port waterfront operations shall cease.

Current Actions: All oceangoing commercial vessels greater than 500 gross tons must be granted permission by the COTP for any further movement or cargo operations. Final facility preparations should be completed. All facilities shall continue to operate in accordance with their approved Facility Security Plans and comply with the requirements of MTSA. Coast Guard Port Assessment Teams will be conducting port surveys. The COTP may require additional precautions to ensure the safety of the ports and waterways.

Future Actions:

Drawbridges in the area may cease operations as early as eight hours prior to the anticipated arrival of sustained gale force winds or when an evacuation is in progress. During lock-down, the bridge is closed, power is turned off, traffic arms may be removed, the control house is secured and the bridge operator is sent to safety.

Questions regarding this PCIB or required actions, should be directed to the U.S. Coast Guard, Sector St. Petersburg Chief, Waterways Management Division, LCDR Ryan Junod at (813) 918-5137 or to your Port Heavy Weather Advisory Group representative.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. P. Kahle".

M. P. Kahle
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port