

Port Forms a New Technology Division

An information technology consulting division of the Diamond State Port Corporation (DSPC) was established this summer, named First State Innovation (FSI). FSI was created as part of the DSPC's efforts to develop and take advantage of new business opportunities, diversify DSPC's service base and increase the corporation's revenue. FSI will use the Port's Technology Solutions Department's extensive knowledge and experience in bar code scanning and inventory control networks to create innovative technology solutions required by other organizations based in Delaware and elsewhere.

The Port's Technology Solutions Department has extensive experience creating information technology applications and solutions for various Port's customers including Volkswagen of America, Dole Fresh Fruit, Chiquita Fresh and the David Oppenheimer Group. This experience includes an assessment of business requirements, developing appropriate information technological solutions, implementing the solutions in cargo handling operations and providing on-going support and training.

"The American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) has recently recognized our technological achievements as a leading port in developing and perfecting scanning and inventory control capabilities. Inigo Thomas, director of the DSPC's Technology Solutions Department and managing director for FSI. "We realized that we can provide consulting services to other companies and organizations beyond the Port's gate implement this knowledge and to create information systems to improve other business," he added.

FSI's information technology expertise can be highly suitable for organizations that require inventory management,

warehousing, and distribution. For example, FSI is currently negotiating a project with the Delaware Department of Transportation where FSI will create the infrastructure for an on-line network that will provide information and maps about Delaware's population, roads, pipe lines, shopping centers, etc. The network will utilize existing CAD (computer aided design) maps to mirror Delaware's transportation and development needs, which will further assist DELDOT in its project development decision-making.

Currently, the Port operates similar web-based networks that provide real time information about cargo inventory status in the warehouses that enables the Port's customers and employees to make timely, efficient and competitive decisions about storage and distribution.



Port Illustrated is excited to learn about the Port's information technology achievements and that the American Association of Port Authorities is planning to hold its next Port Technology seminar at the Port of Wilmington in recognition of these achievements.

Port Illustrated welcomes the establishment of First State Innovation and looks forward to following and reporting on its new developments and future contracts.



T. Parker Host of Delaware, Inc. Ship Agents and Brokers

The Robert F. Senseny Building
1 Hausel Road
Wilmington, Delaware 19801

Telephone: (302) 654-2240
Facsimile: (302) 654-2256
Telex: 6737921 HOSTDEL

Offices In:
*Baltimore, MD • Norfolk, VA • Richmond, VA
Fernandina Beach, FL*

e-mail: tparkerhost@hostdel.com