Cargo Operations To Cease Today, Port Ready For Isaac Six Vessels To Seek Safe Harbor Within Port

New Orleans — Cargo terminals within the Port of New Orleans will cease operations by 5 p.m. today as Port personnel and terminal operators finish storm preparedness procedures in anticipation of Tropical Storm Isaac. The final phase of the Port's storm plan is to lock down cargo operations Tuesday and Wednesday. "The safety of our personnel and their families is paramount during any threat of this kind," said Port President and CEO Gary LaGrange. "Our staff and terminal operators have taken all of the necessary precautions in anticipation of the worst, while we hope for the best. This isn't our first rodeo."

The Associated Branch Pilots, which pilot ships through Southwest Pass at the mouth of the Mississippi River, ceased operations Sunday night and the Crescent River Port Pilots and the New Orleans Baton Rouge Pilot Associations also began moving this morning during the River to clear drafts the Port was prepared for.