

TROPICAL STORM 03W UPDATE #2 Matson Ship ordered out to sea

U.S. Coast Guard orders all vessels over 200 gross tons to depart by 12pm

Piti, Guam, May 22, 2012: Due to updated storm information and in consultation with the U.S. Coast Guard, all vessels docked at the Port weighing more than 200 gross tons are being sent out to sea.

This will mainly impact the Matson M/V Maunalei, which docked this morning with cargo still onboard awaiting discharge.

The ship left the docks at about 12pm today and will remain at sea until the Coast Guard lifts the storm advisory.

As was stated in a previous release, all cargo/vessel operations at the Port Authority of Guam have ceased in anticipation of high winds that are expected to cross our island this afternoon.

In consultation with the U.S. Coast Guard, the Port shut down the gates and stopped operations.

"Our main concern is for the safety and wellbeing of all those who work along our docks and of course the security of the cargo that is coming into our island," said Port General Manager Mary C. Torres.

Meanwhile, Port officials are notifying marina tenants to secure their vessels as quickly as possible. Shortly before noon today Port officials finished tying down and securing all the gantry cranes along the docks.

Please stay tuned for further announcements on the impact the Tropical Storm will have on Port operations including a decision on when operations will resume again.

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