The Second “Perfect Storm”
Gulf of Mexico, Summer 2005

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- Brief history of the GICA
- The GICA today
- Barge industry representative
- Partnerships with USACE and USCG
  - USACE: maintains channels
    - NOAA supports with surveys
  - USCG: maintains markings, regulates operations
1942: 1200 miles authorized to 12 x 125 feet – today’s dimension
The “Girls of Summer” – Hurricane Katrina

Images from 2005 Louisiana Hurricane Impact Atlas, Louisiana Geographic Information Center
The “Girls of Summer” – Hurricane Rita

Figure 14: Hurricane Rita Storm Track (NOAA-NHC, 2005).

Figure 15: Hurricane Rita MODIS Satellite Image September 21, 2005 (NOAA, 2005).

Images from 2005 Louisiana Hurricane Impact Atlas, Louisiana Geographic Information Center
Effects on the Inland Barge Industry

- **Hurricane Katrina**
  - 6 days for restoration
  - 450 miles affected

- **Hurricane Rita**
  - 5 days for restoration
  - 350 miles affected
How was this Rapid Restoration Achieved?

- Coordinated response – USACE, USCG and industry (GICA)
- Hurricane Ivan provided training in 2004
- Effective, trusting partnership
  - USACE: lock structures, channel condition
  - USCG: aids to navigation, operational status of waterways
  - GICA: industry knowledge, communications, logistics support, partner conference calls
Preparations

- Pre-storm conference calls with partners
- Shutdown schedules, relocation plans, confirmation of immediate post-storm plans
- Industry joins command structure
- Partners place assets
- Communication to all partners and industry
- KEY
  - Lock and bridge shutdown schedules – no surprises
During the Storm

- Communication via e-mail
- Condition reports directly from vessels
- Revision of immediate post-storm response
Post-Storm Response

- Joint aerial surveillance by USCG, USACE and industry
- Post-storm partner conference calls led by USACE; set daily schedule
- USACE manages surveys and waterway status
- USCG opens waterways
- Industry provides assistance, priorities, communication
Post-Storm Response

- Joint, trusting partnership at work!
  - Confirm surface response plans; set priorities
  - Communicate to all partners and industry
  - Process continues daily via ICS organization
  - Industry logistics support activated (network for sharing needs, solutions)
Post-Storm Response

- KEY
  - Communications contingencies
  - Staffing of locks and bridges
  - Waterway obstructions (power lines, vessels, bridge damage)
  - Flood control vs. navigation issues
  - Special logistical needs identified to all partners
  - Salvage coordination between government and industry
  - Key personnel, equipment access at critical locations
Going Forward

- Joint hurricane response team, including USACE, USCG and industry, covering entire Gulf Coast
- Trusting partnerships fostered continuously in daily activities
- And…
Wear Your Hurricane Repellant!