

*For Immediate Release*

December 8, 2009

## **REEFER TRAINING AT THE PORT OF PHILADELPHIA**

Contact:

Brady Halbert

(212) 425-7774

bhalbert@mgmus.com

December 4, 2009 was especially cold for a few Metro Group Maritime staffers who spent some time inside a refrigerated "reefer" container at the Port of Philadelphia. MGM's professional development program was joined by Mostafa Shawki, RF Export Trade Manager for Mediterranean Shipping Company, who led a walking tour of Packer Avenue Marine Terminal's reefer container yard and offered an expert look at the mechanics of a state-of-the-art, "Microlink 3" reefer container.

Inside the container, which was preset to minus 20 degrees Fahrenheit, Mr. Shawki explained how the cargo is methodically packed to allow for proper air-flow corridors in the floor and ceiling. Highly sensitive instruments, located on the exterior of the container, regulate virtually every other working component. From the compressor that pumps Freon into the refrigeration coils, to the Everfresh gasses that are generated to maintain the color and freshness of perishable cargo, the reefer container is intricately designed to preserve the climate-controlled integrity of the cargo throughout the length of the shipment.

"This is my second visit to a major port in a month," said Kate Ballengee, attorney for MGM. "Experience like this is invaluable." Even though MGM employees are already experts in collecting maritime and transportation debt, regular field training sessions like this one provide a superior depth of understanding that is applied every day in the office. Noted Ben Kinberg, "A chance to collaborate with experts, add to that hands-on training - that's why we're different."



Mostafa Shawki from Mediterranean Shipping Company and Neil Ross from MGM take a glimpse of the inner workings of the reefer's control module.



Some cargo requires “ambient” or natural air. Mr. Shawki is pointing to the ventilation system that allows for this type of air flow.



From left to right: Neil Ross, Kate Ballengee, Benjamin Kinberg, Marcus L. Arky of MGM and Mostafa Shawki of MSC at Packer Avenue Marine Terminal.