



- PRESS RELEASE -

Tuesday, December 23, 2014

For More Information Contact:

PATRICIA CARDENAS

Communications Director

Dir. Line: 361.885.6124

Cell: 361.816.3621

patricia@pocca.com

Refugio County Added to Port Corpus Christi Regional Foreign Trade Zone Service Area

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX, USA - Port Corpus Christi, Grantee of Foreign Trade Zone #122, is recently approved for expansion of its foreign trade zone service area to include Refugio County under the Alternative Site Framework.

Foreign trade zones are designated secured areas located in or near U.S. Customs ports of entry but legally considered to be outside the customs territory. The fundamental benefit offered by the program is the ability to defer, reduce or even eliminate customs duties on products admitted to the zone. For U.S.-based companies involved in international trade, the Foreign Trade Zone Program provides a means of improving their competitive position.

Prior to the addition of Refugio County, the Port's service area included Aransas, Bee, Jim Wells, Kleberg, Nueces and San Patricio counties. Companies within these counties that have a need for foreign trade zone status can apply for foreign trade zone status for their site.

"We are pleased that Refugio County is interested in the Foreign Trade Zone program. This program is a great economic development tool for the counties in our approved service area." said John LaRue, Port Corpus Christi Executive Director.

For additional information on the Port of Corpus Christi's Foreign Trade Zone Program, go to www.portofcorpuschristi.com.

About Port Corpus Christi

As the primary economic engine of the Coastal Bend, Port Corpus Christi is the 5th largest port in the United States in total tonnage. The Port's mission statement is to "serve as a regional economic development catalyst while protecting and enhancing its existing industrial base and simultaneously working to diversify its international maritime cargo business." Strategically located on the western Gulf of Mexico, with a straight, 45' deep channel, the Port provides quick access to the Gulf and the entire United States inland waterway system. The Port delivers outstanding access to overland transportation with on-site and direct connections to three Class-1 railroads and uncongested interstate and state highways. The Port is protected by a state-of-the-art security department and an award-winning Environmental Management System. With outstanding management and operations staff, Port Corpus Christi is clearly "The Port of the Lone Star State."

<http://www.portofcorpuschristi.com/>

*Port Corpus Christi is a member of **START (South Texas Alliance for Regional Trade)**, a collaborative effort that highlights business opportunities in South Texas in the manufacturing, energy, aerospace, international trade, military and other sectors and the related strategic support provided by Port San Antonio, Port Corpus Christi and Port Laredo. <http://www.southtexastrade.com/>*

- Come Sea Us and Join Your Port of the Lone Star State on Social Media! -



###