

# USSA Captain's Briefing



For the third consecutive year U.S. Superyacht Association (USSA) is gathering at Simpson Bay in St Maarten, the Netherland Antilles on January 17th & 18th, 2007 to present a 'Captain's Briefing and Reception' at Port de Plaisance. The goal of the meeting is two-fold:

- to promote the businesses and services of USSA members and
- to offer a forum for dialog between players of the U.S. superyacht industry and

the senior officers of the superyachts.

The Thursday night 'Briefing' will be a panel discussion titled "Come On Back in 2008! Re-Entry into U.S. Waters and Other Seaworthy Thoughts." William (Billy) S. Smith III, Vice President of Trinity Yachts, LLC and Vice Chair of the USSA Board of Directors, will be moderating the following panel of dignitaries: Frank Herhold (Executive Director, Marine Industries Association of South Florida), Jim Naugle, (Mayor, City of Fort Lauderdale, Jack Garofano (Deputy Director, U.S. Customs & Border Protection, Miami Sector) and a representative from the U.S. Coast Guard. Questions and comments from attending captains and engineers will dictate the discussion, immediately followed by a cocktail reception.

John Mann, chairperson of the USSA Advocacy Committee, states, "We want to impact issues that affect the growth of the superyacht industry in the U.S. Issues like inconsistent enforcement of US regulations on re-entry, crew visas, dredging the ICW and basins, Longshoreman's insurance and the shortage of berthing for large vessels."

Members of the USSA will be available for meetings or product questions from 4:00 – 6:00 on Thursday, January 17, just prior to the 'Captains' Briefing and Reception' and again, from 10:00 – 5:00 on Friday, January 18.

**i.** [www.ussuperyacht.com](http://www.ussuperyacht.com)