The Multimodal Information Sharing Team (MIST) engages with government agencies and private sector shipping to improve the sharing of all hazards threat information. MIST examines the sharing of threat information in local communities through a series of research activities and events held at individual ports across the United States. In response to initial findings showing the interdependence of the maritime, land, and air domains, MIST expanded their focus and changed their name in 2011 to include a wider representation of the supply chain. The new Multimodal Information Sharing Team focuses on engaging stakeholders across the shipping industry, including stakeholders from seaports, airports, trucking, rail and pipelines. Our goals are to:

- Create a structure for collaborative problem solving
- Capture best practices in collaboration & information sharing
- Convey unique local issues to national policy makers

MIST is centered at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) and was established in the fall of 2008. MIST works in collaboration with:

- DHS-USCG, CBP, TSA
- DoD-MDA EA, DON & ASD-HD
- DOT-MARAD
- ODNI
- FBI/DOJ
- NMIO
- PM-ISE

During the workshop, industry and public sector participants identified and critiqued current practices in information sharing and identified needed improvements. The discussions included four areas of discovery:

**Who shares information?**
All Participants indicated strong ties with the US Coast Guard (USCG) and US Customs and Border Protection (CBP). Industry participants included the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) and industry included the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center (NCRIC).

**What all hazards threat information is needed?**
Participants desired information that was useful (trends, risk patterns, collaborative, secure), easy to use (tailored, concise, and timely), and accessible (multiple platforms, easy sign in, access to FOUO, feedback.) The workshop participants also discussed the relationship between cyber security and information sharing and outlined potential future ways in which this critical interface should be addressed.

**Why do stakeholders share or not share information?**
Participants valued financial and operational benefits (lower costs and risks, increased throughput and revenue), strategic and ideological benefits (business continuity, safety, lower crime and pollution), and social benefits (increased public confidence.)

**How is information shared locally?**
Participants recommended improvements to existing information sharing practices:

- The Oakland Truckers Traffic Information System (OT-511)
  Identified OT-511, a text messaging system, as a useful vehicle for improving information sharing between the trucking community and the Port.

- The Northern California Regional Intelligence Center (NCRIC)
  Highlighted the fusion center as a valuable resource for sharing FOUO information and for increased private sector membership.

- The Oakland Domain Awareness Center (ODAC)
  Identified ways to facilitate the design of the new domain awareness center to mitigate risks and have an increased focus on prevention.

- The Area Maritime Security Committee (AMSC)
  Identified a roadmap for establishing a multimodal information sharing subcommittee to the San Francisco Bay Area AMSC:

**AMSC Subcommittee Roadmap**

**Analyze needs**
- Determine partner needs & benefits
- Establish metrics of success
- Understand sources of information
- Determine sustainable resources

**Develop systems**
- Establish needed relationships
- Identify partner roles and responsibilities
- Develop collection & distribution systems
- Develop a marketing/communication plan