



# RHUMB LINES

*Straight Lines to Navigate By*



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## Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA)...National Perspective

*"Maritime Domain Awareness is where it all begins. We cannot conduct the operations that we must if we don't have a good sense of what's out there, moving on, above or under the sea."*

**-- Adm. Gary Roughead, Fleet Forces Command, June 19, 2007**

The national priorities regarding maritime domain awareness are outlined in the National Plan to Achieve Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA), one of eight plans developed to implement the National Strategy for Maritime Security

### Maritime Domain Awareness defined:

An effective understanding of anything associated with the maritime domain that could impact the security, safety, economy, or environment of the United States. The overall objective of MDA is to monitor activities in such a way that trends can be identified and anomalies differentiated.

**MDA enables Maritime Security... Maritime Security enables Global Stability...  
 Global Stability enables Economic Prosperity.**

### A state of full MDA means more timely, accurate decision-making...

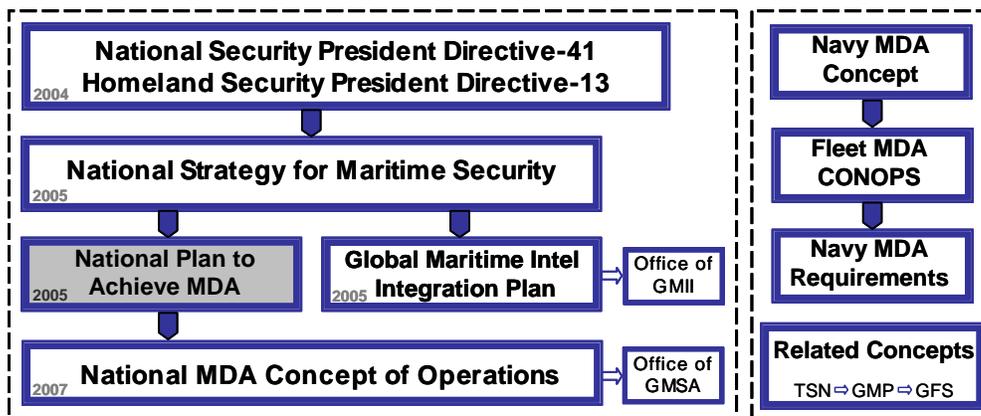
- Operational commanders and decision makers will benefit from an improved ability to collect, fuse, analyze and disseminate actionable information and intelligence.
- Federal, state, and local agencies will share a common operating picture, providing the appropriate types and level of information in a near-real time, customizable, network-centric virtual information grid.
- Threats will be detected far from our shores, enabling defense in depth posture.

### It enhances transparency...

- True MDA is possible only through federal-state-local-tribal-private-international partnering.
- No one can do it alone... Stakeholders must collaborate to create unprecedented information exchange.

### It ensures freedom of navigation and flow of commerce...

- Public safety and economic security are mutually reinforcing.
- Partnerships between nations, agencies and the maritime industry:
  - Safeguard the oceans and its resources.
  - Protect maritime related populations and legitimate activities.
  - Deter aggression and transnational crime.



### Related Rhumb Lines- Future:

- Navy MDA Concept
- Global Maritime Situational Awareness (GMSA)
- Global Maritime Intelligence Integration (GMII)
- Global Maritime Partnerships (GMP)
- Global Fleet Stations Update

### Related Rhumb Lines-Published:

- **7 Aug-** National Strategy for Maritime Security (NSMS)