

Captain Matt Bliven

*Principal Coordinator - The 34th America's Cup
U.S. Coast Guard Sector San Francisco, California*



Captain Matt Bliven serves as the Coast Guard's Principal Coordinator for the 34th America's Cup sail racing event. San Francisco Bay will be home to the 2013 and Louis Vuitton Cup Challenger Series and the America's Cup Finals. Additionally, two America's Cup World Series events will be held in San Francisco in 2012. This marks the first U.S. hosting of America's Cup since 1995, and the first such event ever held inside a major waterway to maximize spectator viewing opportunities.

Coordinating the Coast Guard's two year planning effort leading up to the event, Captain Bliven works with local, regional and federal agencies, industry and public stakeholders in the Bay Area to align Coast Guard efforts for this prestigious international sailing event.

Captain Bliven was previously assigned as the Chief of Operations for the Coast Guard's Pacific Area, overseeing operations across 73 million square miles throughout the Pacific Basin to the Far East, including Alaska and the Arctic. Captain Bliven directed Coast Guard cutters, aircraft, maritime safety and security teams, and district units performing missions in maritime and homeland safety, security, mobility, protection of natural resources, and national defense.

Captain Bliven has attained more than 10 years of seagoing experience while commanding two Coast Guard cutters and serving in three others. He has served in staff positions ashore overseeing ship construction and repair, and managing human resources, in San Francisco Bay, Washington DC, and Wisconsin.

A graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Captain Bliven is also a registered Professional Engineer. His personal awards include the Legion of Merit, four Coast Guard Meritorious Service Medals, and five Coast Guard Commendation Medals with operational distinguishing devices.