

Claycrest Marine Services LLC

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31 January 2025

SUBJ: SL7expo Proposal

To Whom It May Concern:

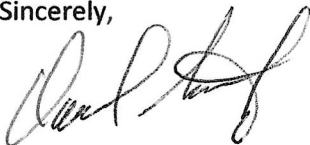
I was excited when I first read the SL7expo Proposal, a plan to create a national maritime educational center using one of the retired SL7 Fast Sealift vessels. I am proud to say that several of my classmates from USMMA are working on this project.

I have worked in various segments of the maritime industry for nearly 50 years witnessing the steady shrinkage of the U.S. Flag merchant fleet. Additionally, I have noticed that many fellow citizens are unaware of the strategic importance of the maritime industry in general. I feel that the SL7expo can go a long way towards improving the public awareness of the merchant fleet and maritime industry.

SL7expo is being led by a group of dedicated professionals with vast maritime industry experience and the foresight to take on such a project. The SL7expo Proposal identifies numerous mission aspects including training, education, recruitment, conferences, and equipment displays. The overall design and layout of the vessel provides a versatile platform to support the mission. The fact that the SL7 would be berthed in Baltimore alongside other historical vessels will certainly make this a world class maritime center.

I urge Congress, MARAD and the leaders of the maritime industry to provide the support and make this project a reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Stanley", written in a cursive style.

David Stanley
President