

Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(a)

OMB No. 1545-0057

If exempt status is approved,
 this application will be open
 for public inspection.

Read the instructions for each Part carefully. **A User Fee must be attached to this application.**
 If the required information and appropriate documents are not submitted along with Form 8718 (with payment
 of the appropriate user fee), the application may be returned to the organization.

Complete the Procedural Checklist on page 6 of the instructions.

Part I. Identification of Applicant (Must be completed by all applicants; also complete appropriate schedule.)
 Submit only the schedule that applies to your organization. Do not submit blank schedules.

Check the appropriate box below to indicate the section under which the organization is applying:

- a Section 501(c)(2)—Title holding corporations (Schedule A, page 7)
- b Section 501(c)(4)—Civic leagues, social welfare organizations (including certain war veterans' organizations), or local associations of employees (Schedule B, page 8)
- c Section 501(c)(5)—Labor, agricultural, or horticultural organizations (Schedule C, page 9)
- d Section 501(c)(6)—Business leagues, chambers of commerce, etc. (Schedule C, page 9)
- e Section 501(c)(7)—Social clubs (Schedule D, page 11)
- f Section 501(c)(8)—Fraternal beneficiary societies, etc., providing life, sick, accident, or other benefits to members (Schedule E, page 13)
- g Section 501(c)(9)—Voluntary employees' beneficiary associations (Parts I through IV and Schedule F, page 14)
- h Section 501(c)(10)—Domestic fraternal societies, orders, etc., not providing life, sick, accident, or other benefits (Schedule E, page 13)
- i Section 501(c)(12)—Benevolent life insurance associations, mutual ditch or irrigation companies, mutual or cooperative telephone companies, or like organizations (Schedule G, page 15)
- j Section 501(c)(13)—Cemeteries, crematoria, and like corporations (Schedule H, page 16)
- k Section 501(c)(15)—Mutual insurance companies or associations, other than life or marine (Schedule I, page 17)
- l Section 501(c)(17)—Trusts providing for the payment of supplemental unemployment compensation benefits (Parts I through IV and Schedule J, page 18)
- m Section 501(c)(19)—A post, organization, auxiliary unit, etc., of past or present members of the Armed Forces of the United States (Schedule K, page 19)
- n Section 501(c)(25)—Title holding corporations or trusts (Schedule A, page 7)

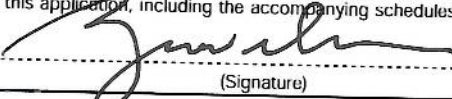
1a Full name of organization (as shown in organizing document) Gulf States Shipbuilders Consortium		2 Employer identification number (EIN) (if none, see Specific Instructions on page 2) 20 ; 8047382
1b c/o Name (if applicable)		3 Name and telephone number of person to be contacted if additional information is needed Byron Dunn (251) 660-1625 ext 101
1c Address (number and street) 1110 Montimar Dr.	Room/Suite 200	
1d City, town or post office, state, and ZIP + 4 If you have a foreign address, see Specific Instructions for Part I, page 2. Mobile, AL 36609		
1e Web site address www.gssship.org	4 Month the annual accounting period ends December	5 Date incorporated or formed December 7, 2006
6 Did the organization previously apply for recognition of exemption under this Code section or under any other section of the Code? If "Yes," attach an explanation. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
7 Has the organization filed Federal income tax returns or exempt organization information returns? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "Yes," state the form numbers, years filed, and Internal Revenue office where filed.		

- 8** Check the box for the type of organization. ATTACH A CONFORMED COPY OF THE CORRESPONDING ORGANIZING DOCUMENTS TO THE APPLICATION BEFORE MAILING.
- a Corporation— Attach a copy of the Articles of Incorporation (including amendments and restatements) showing approval by the appropriate state official; also attach a copy of the bylaws.
 - b Trust— Attach a copy of the Trust Indenture or Agreement, including all appropriate signatures and dates.
 - c Association— Attach a copy of the Articles of Association, Constitution, or other creating document, with a declaration (see instructions) or other evidence that the organization was formed by adoption of the document by more than one person. Also include a copy of the bylaws.

If this is a corporation or an unincorporated association that has not yet adopted bylaws, check here

I declare under the penalties of perjury that I am authorized to sign this application on behalf of the above organization, and that I have examined this application, including the accompanying schedules and attachments, and to the best of my knowledge it is true, correct, and complete.

PLEASE SIGN HERE ▶



Byron Dunn - President

(Type or print name and title or authority of signer)

3-1-2010

(Date)

Part II. Activities and Operational Information (Must be completed by all applicants)

- 1 Provide a detailed narrative description of all the activities of the organization—past, present, and planned. Do not merely refer to or repeat the language in the organizational document. List each activity separately in the order of importance based on the relative time and other resources devoted to the activity. Indicate the percentage of time for each activity. Each description should include, as a minimum, the following: (a) a detailed description of the activity including its purpose and how each activity furthers your exempt purpose; (b) when the activity was or will be initiated; and (c) where and by whom the activity will be conducted.
1. Active. Currently 50 % of time is spent on this activity. Activity: Developing a standardized shipfitting curriculum to train shipfitters for the industry. We chose the shipfitter position based on input from shipyards. No standardized shipfitting curriculum exists in the industry. Both knowledge and skill based, the curriculum will be available to members for their use when finished. It will also be used in shipfitter training boot camps that are planned for 2010. Development of the curriculum began after GSSC completed an assessment of the skills required for the shipfitting job. GSSC hired a professional curriculum developer for the project. GSSC facilitated many meetings of SMEs from member shipyards to provide input and review of each module in the curriculum. This endeavor has engaged approximately 30 employees from member companies. Expected completion date is early 2010. Once complete, it will enable GSSC to further its goal of establishing a steady stream of trained workers for the shipbuilding industry in the Gulf Coast region.
 2. Complete. In order to insure that the shipfitter curriculum would fully prepare trainees for the shipfitting profession, GSSC assessed the skills required for the shipfitting trade. The assessment process included the use of a formal skills assessment tool, provided by Skills Net and through meetings with shipyard employees to get direct input on the required skills, knowledge, tool lists and physical requirements for shipfitting. This project engaged over 40 individuals from the members organizations. It relates to our goal of establishing a steady stream of trained workers for the shipbuilding industry in the Gulf Coast region.
 3. Complete. GSSC partnered with Old Dominion, member ship yards, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and the National Shipbuilding Research Program to host the Shipbuilding and Repair Career Day Gulf Coast events in Pascagoula, MS in 2007 and 2008. The purpose of the events were 1) Create larger pool of qualified candidates for the shipbuilding and repair industries; 2) Enhance shipbuilding & repair industry image; 3) Reduce cost of recruitment and retention for the shipyards. In Sept. 2007 Secondary and Middle School Counselors and Teachers attended workshops to learn about various career options in shipbuilding and repair and to receive on simulation kits for use in the classroom to introduce shipbuilding careers and emphasize the skills and knowledge required to be successful in the industry. In Jan 2008, over 400 students attended a one day session about career options in shipbuilding & repair. The event addressed the gap that exists among middle and high school students about careers in the industry and worked to promote a positive industry image among students and the general public.
 4. Complete. GSSC launched a six-month PR campaign in May 2008. The purpose of the campaign was to increase public awareness of the career opportunities in the shipbuilding and repair industry along the Gulf Coast. The campaign was designed to attract, develop, and retain a robust labor force in Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi. For the campaign, GSSC retained the services of Bond PR and Brand Strategy, from New Orleans, LA. The campaign was executed using a regional approach, engaging specific GSSC partners in appropriate local markets and regions. Primarily targeting high school students, under-employed/under-valued workers in various industries, community and technical college students, transitioning military, and Hispanics, the campaign highlighted the fact that there is an alternative to college and low paying jobs. The campaign also targeted administrators/guidance counselors at high schools and technical and community colleges, parents, news media, economic development organizations, elected officials, and current and past shipbuilding employees.
 5. Active. Currently 20% of our time is spent on this endeavor. Started March 2009. GSSC is applying for status as a NCCER Training sponsor to allow our members to qualify thier training programs under NCCER's Accredited Training program. This will allow anyone trained to receive a portable nationally recognized certificate. In addition, we are working with NCCER to develop nationally recognized standardized curriculum for the shipbuilding and repair industry.
 6. Active. Currently 30% of our time is spent on maintaining communications with our members and others in the industry. Quarterly meetings, newsletters, web conferences and the GSSC web site are used to convey information
- 2 List the organization's present and future sources of financial support, beginning with the largest source first.
1. Present: In 2006, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), through its Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program, awarded a \$750,000 grant to the Alabama Technology Network (ATN) to assist shipbuilders affected by Hurricane Katrina along the Gulf Coast. One of the four major goals was to establish a membership-based, regional cooperative group of shipbuilding companies, suppliers, educational institutions, and economic developers as a non-profit Gulf Coast Shipbuilders Consortium. While the grant did not come directly to GSSC and GSSC is not in control of those funds, ATN, through the grant, funds most of the current undetakings of GSSC.
 2. Present: Annual Membership dues
 3. Present: Surplus funds generated by quarterly and annual meetings.
 4. Future: Fees related to NCCER Sponsor activities.
 5. Future: Future grants.

Part II. Activities and Operational Information (continued)

3 Give the following information about the organization's governing body:

a Names, addresses, and titles of officers, directors, trustees, etc.	b Annual compensation
Byron Dunn- President & Chairman, 1110 Montlimar Dr. Suite 200, Mobile, AL 36609	0
David Cobb - Vice President, P.O. Box 149 Pascagoula, MS 39568-0149	0
Corinne Dupuy - Secretary, 241 E. Lewis St., Rougeou Hall - Ste 100, Lafayette, La 70504	0
Mike Leleux - Treasurer, 13085 Seaway Road, Gulfport, MS 39503	0
Tracey Binion - Director, 601 Bayou Casotte Parkway, Pascagoula, MS 39581	0
Ray Barker - Director, 8365 Highway 308 South, Lockport, LA 70374	0
Sandra Koblas - Director, 100 Dunlap Drive, Mobile, AL 36602	0
Jerold Shepherd - Director, 900 Bayou Casotte Parkway, Pascagoula, MS 39581	0
Dr. John (Jay) Tice, IV - Director, 134 Market Drive, Ridgeland, MS 39157	0

4 If the organization is the outgrowth or continuation of any form of predecessor, state the name of each predecessor, the period during which it was in existence, and the reasons for its termination. Submit copies of all papers by which any transfer of assets was effected.
None

5 If the applicant organization is now, or plans to be, connected in any way with any other organization, describe the other organization and explain the relationship (e.g., financial support on a continuing basis; shared facilities or employees; same officers, directors, or trustees).
None

6 If the organization has capital stock issued and outstanding, state: (1) class or classes of the stock; (2) number and par value of the shares; (3) consideration for which they were issued; and (4) if any dividends have been paid or whether your organization's creating instrument authorizes dividend payments on any class of capital stock.
None

7 State the qualifications necessary for membership in the organization; the classes of membership (with the number of members in each class); and the voting rights and privileges received. If any group or class of persons is required to join, describe the requirement and explain the relationship between those members and members who join voluntarily. Submit copies of any membership solicitation material. Attach sample copies of all types of membership certificates issued.
Membership is open to Gulf Coast shipbuilding and repair companies as well as those companies and organizations that support the shipbuilding and repair industry. General members have no voting rights. Only Board members who are selected by existing Board members have voting rights. Membership is strictly voluntary.

8 Explain how your organization's assets will be distributed on dissolution.
By a plan adopted by the board of directors in accordance with Section 10-3A-142 Code of Alabama or any successor statute. The plan will distribute assets to the then-members of the corporation, pro rata according to their past total contributions to the corporation, not to exceed the total amount paid by them during the existence of the corporation. Any remaining assets will be distributed by the board to other organizations deemed organized and operated for purposes similar to GSSC.

Part II. Activities and Operational Information (continued)

9 Has the organization made or does it plan to make any distribution of its property or surplus funds to shareholders or members? Yes No
If "Yes," state the full details, including: (1) amounts or value; (2) source of funds or property distributed or to be distributed; and (3) basis of, and authority for, distribution or planned distribution.

10 Does, or will, any part of your organization's receipts represent payments for services performed or to be performed?. Yes No
If "Yes," state in detail the amount received and the character of the services performed or to be performed.

11 Has the organization made, or does it plan to make, any payments to members or shareholders for services performed or to be performed? Yes No
If "Yes," state in detail the amount paid, the character of the services, and to whom the payments have been, or will be, made.

12 Does the organization have any arrangement to provide insurance for members, their dependents, or others (including provisions for the payment of sick or death benefits, pensions, or annuities)? Yes No
If "Yes," describe and explain the arrangement's eligibility rules and attach a sample copy of each plan document and each type of policy issued.

13 Is the organization under the supervisory jurisdiction of any public regulatory body, such as a social welfare agency, etc.? Yes No
If "Yes," submit copies of all administrative opinions or court decisions regarding this supervision, as well as copies of applications or requests for the opinions or decisions.

14 Does the organization now lease or does it plan to lease any property? Yes No
If "Yes," explain in detail. Include the amount of rent, a description of the property, and any relationship between the applicant organization and the other party. Also, attach a copy of any rental or lease agreement. (If the organization is a party, as a lessor, to multiple leases of rental real property under similar lease agreements, please attach a single representative copy of the leases.)

15 Has the organization spent or does it plan to spend any money attempting to influence the selection, nomination, election, or appointment of any person to any Federal, state, or local public office or to an office in a political organization?. Yes No
If "Yes," explain in detail and list the amounts spent or to be spent in each case.

16 Does the organization publish pamphlets, brochures, newsletters, journals, or similar printed material? Yes No
If "Yes," attach a recent copy of each.

Part III. Financial Data (Must be completed by all applicants)

Complete the financial statements for the current year and for each of the 3 years immediately before it. If in existence less than 4 years, complete the statements for each year in existence. If in existence less than 1 year, also provide proposed budgets for the 2 years following the current year.

A. Statement of Revenue and Expenses

	(a) Current Tax Year	3 Prior Tax Years or Proposed Budget for Next 2 Years			(e) Total
	From 1/1/2010 To 2/28/2010	(b) 2009	(c) 2008	(d) 2007	
Revenue					
1 Gross dues and assessments of members	5200	17475	10950	9300	42925
2 Gross contributions, gifts, etc.	262	1	0	0	263
3 Gross amounts derived from activities related to the organization's exempt purpose (attach schedule) (Include related cost of sales on line 9.)	5895	29260	27024	0	62179
4 Gross amounts from unrelated business activities (attach schedule)	0	0	0	0	0
5 Gain from sale of assets, excluding inventory items (attach schedule)	0	0	0	0	0
6 Investment income (see page 3 of the instructions)	0	0	0	0	0
7 Other revenue (attach schedule).	0	0	0	0	0
8 Total revenue (add lines 1 through 7)	11357	46736	37974	9300	105367
Expenses					
9 Expenses attributable to activities related to the organization's exempt purposes.	2098	28157	30069	0	60324
10 Expenses attributable to unrelated business activities	0	0	0	0	0
11 Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts paid (attach schedule).	0	0	0	0	0
12 Disbursements to or for the benefit of members (attach schedule)	0	0	0	0	0
13 Compensation of officers, directors, and trustees (attach schedule)	0	0	0	0	0
14 Other salaries and wages.	0	0	0	0	0
15 Interest	0	0	0	0	0
16 Occupancy	0	0	0	0	0
17 Depreciation and depletion	0	0	0	0	0
18 Other expenses (attach schedule)	0	0	0	0	0
19 Total expenses (add lines 9 through 18)	2098	28157	30069	0	60324
20 Excess of revenue over expenses (line 8 minus line 19)	9259	18579	7905	9300	45043

B. Balance Sheet (at the end of the period shown)

		Current Tax Year as of 2/28/2010	
Assets			
1	Cash	1	46348
2	Accounts receivable, net	2	13070
3	Inventories	3	0
4	Bonds and notes receivable (attach schedule)	4	0
5	Corporate stocks (attach schedule).	5	0
6	Mortgage loans (attach schedule)	6	0
7	Other investments (attach schedule)	7	0
8	Depreciable and depletable assets (attach schedule)	8	0
9	Land	9	0
10	Other assets (attach schedule)	10	0
11	Total assets	11	59418
Liabilities			
12	Accounts payable	12	275
13	Contributions, gifts, grants, etc., payable	13	0
14	Mortgages and notes payable (attach schedule)	14	0
15	Other liabilities (attach schedule)	15	0
16	Total liabilities.	16	275
Fund Balances or Net Assets			
17	Total fund balances or net assets	17	59143
18	Total liabilities and fund balances or net assets (add line 16 and line 17)	18	59418

If there has been any substantial change in any aspect of the organization's financial activities since the end of the period shown above, check the box and attach a detailed explanation.

Part IV. Notice Requirements (Sections 501(c)(9) and 501(c)(17) Organizations Only)

1 Section 501(c)(9) and 501(c)(17) organizations:

Are you filing Form 1024 within 15 months from the end of the month in which the organization was created or formed as required by section 505(c)? Yes No

If "Yes," skip the rest of this Part.

If "No," answer question 2.

2 If you answer "No" to question 1, are you filing Form 1024 within 27 months from the end of the month in which the organization was created or formed? Yes No

If "Yes," your organization qualifies under Regulation section 301.9100-2 for an automatic 12-month extension of the 15-month filing requirement. Do not answer questions 3 and 4.

If "No," answer question 3.

3 If you answer "No" to question 2, does the organization wish to request an extension of time to apply under the "reasonable action and good faith" and the "no prejudice to the interest of the government" requirements of Regulations section 301.9100-3? Yes No

If "Yes," give the reasons for not filing this application within the 27-month period described in question 2. See Specific Instructions, Part IV, Line 3, page 4, before completing this item. Do not answer question 4.

If "No," answer question 4.

4 If you answer "No" to question 3, your organization's qualification as a section 501(c)(9) or 501(c)(17) organization can be recognized only from the date this application is filed. Therefore, does the organization want us to consider its application as a request for recognition of exemption as a section 501(c)(9) or 501(c)(17) organization from the date the application is received and not retroactively to the date the organization was created or formed? Yes No

Schedule C Organizations described in section 501(c)(5) (Labor, agricultural, including fishermen's organizations, or horticultural organizations) or section 501(c)(6) (business leagues, chambers of commerce, etc.)

1 Describe any services the organization performs for members or others. (If the description of the services is contained in Part II of the application, enter the page and item number here.)
Page 2 - Items 1, 5 & 6

2 Fishermen's organizations only.—What kinds of aquatic resources (not including mineral) are cultivated or harvested by those eligible for membership in the organization?

3 Labor organizations only.—Is the organization organized under the terms of a collective bargaining agreement? . . . Yes No

If "Yes," attach a copy of the latest agreement.