

 **THE PORT OF
LONG BEACH** NEWS RELEASE

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**CHINESE MEGA-SHIP MAKES MAIDEN CALL
8,000-TEU COSCO *Long Beach* Docks at Pier J**

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China Ocean Shipping Co.'s 8,000-TEU *COSCO Long Beach* arrived Friday, Aug. 20, for its maiden call at the Port of Long Beach. The ship docked at SSA Marine's Pacific Container Terminal at Pier J.

The newly built *COSCO Long Beach* is 984 feet long, which is longer than three football fields, and 140 feet wide, which is 30 feet wider than the Panama Canal. The *COSCO Long Beach* can carry enough cargo to completely fill a regional shopping center with products eight feet high.

The *COSCO Long Beach* is among a new generation of 8,000-twenty-foot-equivalent-unit (TEU) vessels that have begun to call at the Port of Long Beach, one of the few U.S. ports with the deep channels and large shipping terminals capable of handling these giant vessels fully loaded. Only five years ago, the first 6,000-TEU ships called in Long Beach.

The *COSCO Long Beach* is the first of five 8,000-TEU vessels that COSCO has chartered from E. R. Schiffahrt of Germany and built by Hyundai Heavy Industries of South Korea. The ships will be deployed in COSCO's Southeast Asia (SEA) service, which calls in China at Ningbo, Xiamen, Hong Kong and Yantian, and also Long Beach and Vancouver before returning across the Pacific to Yokohama, Japan, and then Ningbo.

Based in Shanghai, COSCO is the national flag carrier of the People's Republic of China, and one of the world's premier full-service intermodal carriers. The company utilizes a vast network of ocean vessels, barges, railroad and motor carriers to link the international shipper with the consignee. COSCO vessels have called at the Port of Long Beach since 1983, after the U.S. normalized relations with China.

During this summer of the mega-ships, four other lines have or will be calling with 8,000-TEU ships in Long Beach, including Orient Overseas Container Line (OOCL), China Shipping Container Lines, CMA CGM and Mediterranean Shipping Co. (MSC).

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