

CONTAINER TRADE STRONG FOR THIRD STRAIGHT MONTH

LONG BEACH, Calif. July 19, 2002 – Led by a surge in imports, the total number of cargo containers shipped through the Port of Long Beach climbed to the equivalent of 418,977 container units in June, a 15.5 percent increase over the same month a year ago.

June marked the third month in a row that the port's container total (inbound, outbound and empties) topped 400,000 twenty-foot-long container units – the first such “three-peat” in port history.

“We are pleased with the continuing trend of strong imports,” said port Executive Director Richard Steinke. “We hope that it reflects a strengthening in the U.S. economy.”

Shipping terminals at the port reported that the number of imported containers rose to 236,112 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs), an increase of 16.3 percent from June 2001. The port's leading imports include goods made in Asia such as clothing, shoes, toys and consumer electronics.

The number of exported containers fell to 75,814 TEUs, a 3.3 percent decline from a year ago and the first downturn in exports in five months. The port's leading exports include factory equipment, recycled paper and raw materials such as plastics and chemicals.

The number of empty containers jumped to 107,051 TEUs, an increase of 31.7 percent. Most of the empty containers were shipped to Asia to be re-filled with cargo.

The Port of Long Beach is one of the world's busiest container cargo seaports, a leading gateway between the U.S. and Asia. Nearly \$95 billion in trade moved through the port last year. General cargo is shipped in steel containers of various sizes. The standard measure for container cargo is the twenty-foot-long container or the twenty-foot equivalent unit (TEU). More information is available at www.polb.com.

Port of Long Beach

Container Trade (TEUs*)

	LOADED Inbound	Outbound	TOTAL LOADED	TOTAL EMPTYES	TOTAL CONTAINERS
Jun-02	236,112	75,814	311,926	107,051	418,977
Jun-01	202,988	78,395	281,383	81,275	362,658
% change	16.3%	-3.3%	10.9%	31.7%	15.5%
Jan-02	180,528	70,944	251,472	93,173	344,645

Feb-02	202,276	83,334	285,610	77,373	362,983
Mar-02	171,874	87,845	259,719	83,887	343,606
Apr-02	227,953	87,961	315,914	94,286	410,200
May-02	231,382	84,062	315,444	112,589	428,033
Jun-02	236,112	75,814	311,926	107,051	418,977
Jan-June '02	1,250,125	489,960	1,740,085	568,359	2,308,444
Jan.-June '01	1,147,181	473,070	1,620,251	502,946	2,123,197
% change	9.0%	3.6%	7.4%	13.0%	8.7%

**TEUs: 20-foot equivalent units or 20-foot-long cargo container*

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