

RECORD-BREAKING JULY CONTAINER TRADE UP 19%

LONG BEACH, Calif. Aug. 20, 2002 –Importers shipped record volumes in July driving up the total number of cargo containers shipped through the Port of Long Beach to 451,917 units – a 19.2 percent increase compared to July 2001. The number of imported containers, empty containers and the total of all container units in July were the port's highest ever.

With retailers stocking up for the end-of-summer and fall retail seasons, the number of inbound containers increased to the equivalent of 249,618 twenty-foot-long container units, an jump of 19.9 percent over the July 2001 total. The port's leading imports include such products as Asia-made clothing, toys, shoes, handbags and consumer electronics.

For the second straight month, the number of outbound cargo containers dropped. Exports fell to 70,499 twenty-foot-equivalent units (TEUs), a decline of 9.6 percent. The port's leading exports include factory equipment and raw materials such as plastics, chemicals and recycled waste paper.

With the imbalance in trade, the number of empty containers – almost all headed back to Asia to be re-loaded with cargo – soared to 131,800 TEUs, a 41.9 percent increase.

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 EMPTIES	TOTAL CONTAINERS
Jul-02	249,618	70,499	320,117	131,800	451,917
Jul-01	208,179	77,956	286,135	92,897	379,032
% change	19.9%	-9.6%	11.9%	41.9%	19.2%
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
Jul-02	249,618	70,499	320,117	131,800	451,917
Jan-July '02	1,499,743	560,459	2,060,202	700,159	2,760,361
Jan.-July '01	1,355,360	551,026	1,906,386	595,843	2,502,229
% change	10.7%	1.7%	8.1%	17.5%	10.3%

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

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