

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****CONTACT: ART WONG, Media Relations Manager****E-Mail: wong@polb.com****Website: www.polb.com****February 21, 2001****(562) 590-4123****IMPORT LEADS CONTAINER GAINS IN JANUARY**

Boosted by strong imports, total container cargo volume rose in January at the Port of Long Beach, climbing to the equivalent of 354,441 20-foot-long container units - an increase of 4.5 percent over January 2000.

The number of inbound containers jumped to 194,746 20-foot equivalent units (TEUs), a 9 percent increase over last January. January is typically one of the port's slower import months, as winter import shipments drop following the Christmas holiday rush. But this January's import total fell just shy of last year's record 205,000-TEU monthly average for imports.

Exports dipped to 77,073 TEUs, a 3.8 percent decline from January 2000. January was the third-consecutive month in which exports have fallen. The number of empty containers, most of them headed back to Asia to be refilled with cargo, rose 2.8 percent to 82,622 TEUs.

**Port of Long Beach  
Container Traffic (TEUs\*)**

	LOADED		TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
	Inbound	Outbound	LOADED	EMPTIES	CONTAINERS
<b>Jan-01</b>	<b>194,746</b>	<b>77,073</b>	<b>271,819</b>	<b>82,622</b>	<b>354,441</b>
Jan-00	178,672	80,091	258,763	80,380	339,143
<b>% Change</b>	<b>9.0%</b>	<b>-3.8%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>4.5%</b>
Oct-00	235,511	88,541	324,052	108,880	432,932
Nov-00	213,065	90,756	303,821	107,076	410,897

Dec-00	180,631	79,351	259,982	91,408	351,390
Jan-01	194,746	77,073	271,819	82,622	354,441
<b>Sep '00-Jan '01</b>	<b>823,953</b>	<b>335,721</b>	<b>1,159,674</b>	<b>389,986</b>	<b>1,549,660</b>
<b>Sep '99-Jan '00</b>	<b>777,930</b>	<b>342,338</b>	<b>1,120,268</b>	<b>377,836</b>	<b>1,498,104</b>
<b>% Change</b>	<b>5.9%</b>	<b>-1.9%</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>3.4%</b>

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

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