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TIE LINES – March 2000

AROUND THE PORT...

The Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners has approved a \$12.8 million contract with Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Co. of Oak Brook, Ill., to widen a portion of the Navy Mole for an on-dock rail yard that will be built as part of a new container terminal at the former Naval Station. The Mole project, which will add 22 acres -- 315 feet wide and 3,000 feet long -- is scheduled to begin in late March, with completion set for December.

More than 150 truckers presented a Bill of Rights on Feb. 18 to the Board of Harbor Commissioners, calling for improved working conditions, fair pay and the right to organize. Cargo shipments were not disrupted by the truckers' rally. Port Executive Director Richard D. Steinke said that since the port doesn't employ the truckers it doesn't have control over most of the truckers' issues. However, the port has invested \$135 million in the last decade to ease traffic congestion. Several terminals open during the evening to shorten gate times for truckers. The port also is a member of the Harbor Area Intermodal Committee and the Center for International Trade and Transportation at Cal State Long Beach - two groups that are working on solutions to the trucker issues.

NEWS BULLETIN! The port is launching a free e-mail newsletter to quickly alert the industry to what's happening at the nation's busiest seaport. To subscribe, send a blank e-mail to polb-subscribe@eGroups.com.

With steady gains in imports and exports, shipping terminals at the Port of Long Beach handled the equivalent of 339,143 20-foot cargo container units in January, a 6.2 percent increase over the same month last year. The number of imported containers rose 5.5 percent to 178,672 20-foot equivalent units (TEUs) - the port's best-ever January import total. Exports increased 3.1 percent to 80,091 TEUs - the best January export total in four years.

The California Transportation Commission has voted unanimously to accept the transfer of the

southern end of the Long Beach (710) Freeway, between Pacific Coast Highway and Ocean Boulevard, which was previously maintained by the City and Port of Long Beach. With the transfer, scheduled for May, Caltrans will take responsibility for maintenance and planning.

A free internet dispatching system has been launched at www.eModal.com by former Los Angeles port marketing manager John Cushing. Emodal offers container, vessel and terminal information. Those on line include the Zim facility operated by Stevedoring Services of America at the C-60 terminal in Long Beach. Expected to come on line soon is the International Transportation Service terminal in Long Beach.

The recent wave of illegal Chinese immigration is costly to all involved, Immigration & Naturalization port director Tom Graber told the International Business Association in February. The illegals pay about \$55,000 each to be smuggled in by plane or ship. About 250 were caught trying to enter through the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles last year, and 1,400 were caught at LAX. The shipping lines pay a fine of \$2,000 for each illegal landing on U.S. soil, while airlines pay \$3,300 a person. They also pay detention costs of about \$85 a day for up to two weeks. And they may be required to pay for the illegal to be taken back overseas.

The Board of Harbor Commissioners has approved a \$500,000 contract with the Oakland-based architectural/engineering design firm Jordan Woodman Dobson to study major expansions of International Transportation Service's and Pacific Container Terminal's Pier J terminals. The commissioners also approved a \$399,041 contract with Kleinfelder Inc. for geotechnical studies of landfill and a new wharf at ITS.

The *Maersk Wave*, a vehicle-carrying vessel operated by Wallenius-Wilhelmsen Line, made its maiden voyage to Long Beach on Feb. 15, calling at Stevedoring Services of America's Crescent Terminal at Berth F205. The *Wave* brought heavy equipment from the Far East to Long Beach, and then sailed to the East Coast.

The nesting season has begun, so the port is using recorded bird calls and fiberglass decoys once again to lure black crown night herons to a sanctuary at Gull Park, at the end of the Navy Mole. Last year, the birds' first at Gull Park, a survey found 100 nests and more than 150 chicks - four times as many chicks as were found the previous year at their former home at the Long Beach Naval Station.

The ILWU is hosting a second Town Hall meeting at 5:30 p.m. April 6 at Long Beach's Terrace Theatre to discuss waterfront technology issues. The program will include the screening of a video on the ILWU's landmark 1960 Mechanization & Modernization agreement.

Sea Launch, an international rocket-launching venture home-ported in Long Beach, has sent its launch vessels to the equator for its second for-pay launch. The latest launch will place a communications satellite into orbit on March 12 for London-based ICO Global Communications.

Port officials hosted a briefing and dinner for a top-level delegation from the Port of Hong Kong

in February. The following day, the Hong Kong representatives, including Port and Maritime Board Chairman Peter Thompson, presented a three-hour overview of their growth and development plans to more than 100 members of the Foreign Trade Association of Southern California at a conference held in Long Beach.

Vessel arrivals at the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles jumped 7 percent to 5,593 ships in 1999 - the highest total since 1992, reports the Marine Exchange of Los Angeles/Long Beach. Long Beach's share of the arrivals was 2,963, a 5 percent increase. During the 1990s, the totals declined because of the larger ships deployed, and because a since-repealed state sales tax drove away bunker fueling vessels.

The port is looking for someone with experience in maritime port operations to fill the position of assistant chief wharfinger. Working under the direction of the chief wharfinger, the assistant supervises the port's wharfingers, enforces tariff rules, maintains liaisons with port customers, and supervises customer service programs. The deadline for applications is March 31. For more information, call (562) 570-7057.

The Port of Long Beach's Employees' Club held a Valentine's Day bake sale that was a chocolate lover's delight, raising \$150 to purchase library books for International Elementary School in downtown Long Beach.

Long Beach Memorial Medical Center is offering free prostate cancer screenings to men age 40 and over, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 9 in a mobile medical vehicle outside the port's administration building, 925 Harbor Plaza. An estimated 180,000 men are diagnosed each year with prostate cancer. If detected early, however, the survival rate is nearly 100 percent.

Rich Bergmann of Manugistics will talk about "The E-Commerce Revolution: How Does it Affect the Transportation Industry?" at the Propeller Club's March 22 luncheon at the West Coast Long Beach Hotel. For more information, call (818) 951-2841.

Richard Hollingsworth of Gateway Cities Partnership will discuss "E-Commerce, Death of Distance" at the International Business Association's March 24 luncheon at The Reef restaurant in Long Beach. For more information, call (562) 436-1251.

PORT PEOPLE...

California Gov. Gray Davis has appointed Long Beach Harbor Commissioner **Carmen O. Perez** to the state's World Trade Commission. Davis had previously named former Long Beach Harbor Commissioner **Alex Bellehumeur** to the trade commission.

Harbor Commissioner **John Hancock** and his wife, **Elizabeth**, were presented Family Life Awards by Family Service of Long Beach at the group's 66th anniversary dinner March 2 aboard the Queen Mary. Also honored were Long Beach City Manager **Henry Taboada** and his wife, **Julia**.

Y. K. Kwon has succeeded **Y.B. Yun** as president of Asia Shipping Co. Ltd. and as the port's overseas representative in Korea. Yun has retired. Kwon is a 30-year veteran of the maritime industry, having represented lines including Maersk, Hapag-Lloyd and Yang Ming. He has also worked in the stevedoring and container terminal business.

The port's acting properties director, **Hal Duensing**, was presented the Long Beach Fire Department's Meritorious Award at its 29th annual luncheon in February. The port was honored for providing temporary warehouse space each year for the annual Christmas Toy Drive.

Isao Shintani has been elected chairman of the board of Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha Ltd. ("K" Line). Shintani had been president for the last six years. He will be succeeded as president by **Yasuhide Sakinaga**, who has been an executive vice president. Shintani is also vice president of the Japanese Shipowners' Association.

Abbie Granger, formerly an aide to Republican Congressman **Steve Kuykendall**, has been named as the spokeswoman for the Pacific Maritime Association in San Francisco. Granger, the daughter of Steamship Association of Southern California Executive Secretary **Jay Winter**, replaces **Joey Parr** who moved to New York.

Laura Kovary, a 20-year veteran of the maritime industry and a former professor at the California Maritime Academy, has been named manager of customer service for Crowley Marine Services' Southern California operations.

California United Terminals has announced three promotions. **George Lang**, formerly a general manager, was promoted to vice president of operations. **George Banker** has been promoted to assistant vice president of finance and administration, reporting directly to CUT President **John Maddox**. **Dino Bon** has been promoted to manager of human relations, also reporting directly to Maddox.

Larry Mann, vice president of maintenance and repairs at California United Terminals, passed away Feb. 11. He was 55. Mann worked for nearly 20 years with CUT. He is survived his girlfriend **Marilyn Jackson**; children **Darren** and **Tammy Myers**; mother **Mary**; siblings **James**, **A.C. Lucille Ford**, **Louise Galliher**, **Edna Dickerson** and **Charlene Mann**.

E-MAIL NEWS BULLETINS!

The port issues a free Internet version of Tie Lines and e-mail "news flashes" on breaking news.

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