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TIE LINES – May 2000

AROUND THE PORT...

The Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners has voted to appoint Robert H. "Hal" Duensing as director of properties for the Port of Long Beach. Duensing, who joined the port as manager of leasing in July 1995, had been the acting director of properties following the retirement of **Jim Larsen** in December.

Kathryn McDermott, who has been a senior leasing officer, has been promoted to succeed Duensing as leasing manager. Duensing and his staff lease port properties, negotiating customer agreements that generate more than \$180 million in yearly revenue.

In the strongest sign yet of Asia's economic recovery, export cargo containers at the port jumped in March to the highest level in nearly three years. The port's terminals handled the equivalent of 97,871 20-foot-long container units, a 10.3 percent increase over March 1998 -- the highest export total since June 1997. In mid-1997, the Asian economic crisis began, greatly depressing U.S. exports to the Far East.

Inbound containers increased 3.8 percent, to 178,489 20-foot equivalent units (TEUs), compared with March 1998. The number of empty containers fell 14.8 percent to 74,404 TEUs.

Jacobsen Pilot Service, which has provided piloting services in Long Beach since 1922, has become the first U.S. piloting organization to be ISO 9002 certified. Also certified was **Bay Survey Enterprises**, a Jacobsen company consisting of three independent marine survey firms -- **J. A. Jacobsen and Associates**, **M. L. McGee and Associates**, and **Swaminathan Marine Surveyors**.

ISO 9002 sets an international standard of quality and safety. Companies certified as ISO compliant

agree to conduct regular independent audits of their policies and practices to retain their certification.

Ship operators are reminded that under the South Coast Air Quality Management District's Rule 401 they are required to prevent excessive smoke stack emissions.

Violators may face fines of as much as \$50,000 and possible imprisonment. Both the AQMD staff and the port's security force cite violators. For copies of a port brochure explaining Rule 401, call (562) 590-4154.

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With \$89 billion in cargo, Long Beach led the nation's ports in the value of cargo moved in 1999, according to U.S. Maritime Administration figures released last month by the Waterborne Trade Atlas.

Long Beach's cargo value jumped by 10.7 percent over 1998, as the value of imports increased by 15 percent and exports declined by 7 percent.

Long Beach was the world's sixth-busiest container port in 1999, with 4.4 million TEUs, according to Containerisation International magazine. Hong Kong, with 16.1 million TEUs, returned to the top spot, edging past Singapore (15.9 million TEUs). No. 3 was Kaohsiung, Taiwan, with 7 million TEUs, followed by Busan, South Korea, with 6.4 million TEUs, and Rotterdam, Netherlands with 6.4 million TEUs. Shanghai, China, with 4.2 million, leaped to No. 7 from No. 10 a year ago, with a 37.3 percent gain in cargo.

Bigger, more technologically advanced systems are keys to handling growing cargo volumes, consultant John Vickerman of TransSystems Corp. told the second annual ILWU Town Hall meeting last month in Long Beach.

Of the 167 container ships on order worldwide, 100 will be 5,000-TEUs or more, he said. Designers envision a 15,000-TEU ship that would be 1,312 feet long and 226 feet wide, with 28 containers across, and a draft of minus 46 feet.

Caltrans has presented a 1999 Excellence in Transportation Award to the port for its decade-long, \$150 million grade separation program -- a series of seven bridge and overpass construction projects that separated street traffic from train traffic within the port.

Far Eastern Shipping Co.'s Pacific Line has upgraded to a fixed-day weekly service between China and the U.S. West Coast, including a call at Long Beach's California United Terminals.

Fesco added two vessels - the Fesco Endeavor and Kapitan Afanasyev - in upgrading from a 10-day schedule. Fesco Pacific Line now operates a fleet of six ships, each with a capacity of nearly 1,800

TEUs. The ships call in Shanghai, Yantian, Hong Kong, Long Beach, Seattle and back to Shanghai.

Fesco has celebrated its 120th anniversary. The Russian company's first voyage was launched on March 9, 1880, when the Moskva sailed from the Black Sea to Russia's Pacific ports. The company was privatized in 1992.

Century Bridge Container Lines, which operates a trans-Pacific service between China and Korea and the U.S. West and East Coasts, will be upgrading its port calls to once-every-two-weeks from once-every-three-weeks beginning at the end of May.

The Beijing-based line calls at Long Beach's International Transportation Service terminal. By this summer, it will operate at least four vessels, each with a capacity of 1,500- to 2,000-TEUs.

The company has named Norton Lilly International as its U.S. general agent, and appointed Patrick Dinon as managing director. Dinon was formerly director of sales, logistics and marketing for Weyerhaeuser's shipping subsidiary, Westwood Shipping Line.

Sea Launch plans to move its corporate headquarters to downtown Long Beach from the Cayman Islands to be near its satellite-processing operations center at the Port of Long Beach on the former Navy Mole.

The international satellite-launching consortium, which consists of U.S., Norwegian, Russian and Ukrainian partners, was headquartered in the Caribbean for tax reasons. Company executives said inconvenience and red tape convinced them to move.

The port has sold a 1985-built Paceco container crane to the Port of Vancouver, Wash. The crane, which was formerly used at Long Beach's Maersk Terminal, is rated at 40 tons, has a boom outreach of 125 feet and a back reach of 79 feet.

Eastern Car Liner offloaded four 80-ton coke tanks and three transformers ranging in size from 120 to 180 tons from its ship, Giga Trans, last month at Crescent Terminals and the Cooper/T. Smith facility on Pier F.

The coke tanks were trucked a refinery, and the transformers moved by train to local power companies.

Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha Ltd. ("K" Line) has ordered four 5,500-TEU container ships, which are identical to eight others ordered in December.

Two of the latest ships will be built by Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. Ltd. of Korea. The other two will be built by Imabari Shipbuilding Co. Ltd. of Japan. The ships will be delivered in 2002, and deployed in Asia-North America and Asia-Europe services.

"K" Line's auto carrier, the American Highway, made its maiden voyage to Long Beach on April

15 with a call at the Toyota terminal. The ship will sail between Long Beach and Nagoya, Japan.

Doman Forest Products Ltd. of Vancouver, Canada, began making regular calls last month at the Fremont Forest Terminal on Pier T.

Doman plans to make ship calls ever 60 days at the Fremont Forest facility, with each ship expected to bring more than 5 million board feet of Canadian lumber.

Jacobsen Pilot Service President Tom Jacobsen will be one of four people honored at the World Trade Hall of Fame dinner May 9 at downtown Los Angeles' Wilshire Grand Hotel.

The annual World Trade Center Association event will also honor Grupo TACA President **Federico Bloch**, Candle Corp. Chairman **Aubrey Chernick**, and Imperial Bank President **George Graziadio**. Journal of Commerce publisher **Bill Ralph** will be presented the Export Development Award and Eslabon President **Eradio Jimenez** will be honored with the Member Achievement Award. Central America will be the focus of the fourth annual Trade with the Americas Conference on May 10 at the Wilshire Grand Hotel in Los Angeles.

Los Angeles Times columnist James Flanigan will moderate one of the panel discussions. The event is sponsored by World Trade Center Association of Los Angeles-Long Beach. To register, call (877) 982-2776.

Former shipping line executive George Marshall will be the speaker at the Harbor Association of Industry & Commerce general membership luncheon May 11 at the West Coast Long Beach Hotel. To register, call (310) 417-3929.

The port will host the International Business Association's World Trade Week 2000 mixer from 5 to 7:30 p.m. May 16 at the Harbor Department Administration Building, 925 Harbor Plaza. The program will include a tour of a Zim container ship at SSA's Pier C terminal. For reservations, call (562) 432-8128.

The Steamship Association of Southern California will hold its 51st annual dinner dance May 20 at the Century Plaza Hotel. For reservations, call (213) 627-0634.

For the first time, Southern California's leading trade organizations will gather together to celebrate World Trade Week. The WTW 2000 luncheon and trade fair will be held May 25 at the Hilton Long Beach Hotel.

The event is sponsored by the International Business Association, Foreign Trade Association, Propeller Club, Los Angeles Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders Association, and the World Trade Center Association. The keynote speaker will be Wai Szeto, vice president of strategic business development with Kingston Technology Co., the world's largest manufacturer of computer memory products. For reservations, call (562) 432-8128.

More information about World Trade Week 2000 is available on the International Business Association's trade week web page: www.worldtradeweek.net.

Hungering for a feast of "legendary proportions?" The ILWU and Propeller Club will hold its 13th annual Seafood Feast from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. June 14 at the World Cruise Center, Berth 93, at the Port of Los Angeles. Proceeds go to the ILWU/Propeller Club Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Tickets must be purchased in advance. They are \$35 a person. For information, contact the ILWU offices, call (818) 951-2842, or e-mail: propclub@pacbell.net.

PORT PEOPLE...

The Marine Exchange will hold a farewell luncheon for Coast Guard Capt. George Wright, who is retiring. The event will be May 10 at the Ports O' Call Restaurant in San Pedro. For reservations, call (310) 519-3127.

Mike Mitre has been elected as the new president of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 13 in Wilmington, succeeding Mike Freese. Local 13 is the union's largest local with more than 4,000 registered members.

Dave Greenwald has been named logistics services manager for Toyota Logistics Services Inc. at the Port of Long Beach. He succeeds Jim Gatzke, who has moved to Toyota's corporate office in Torrance to head the company's North America Parts Logistics Division.

Long Beach Poly High School senior Mark Wimby was the overall winner of this year's World Trade Week speech contest. Onie Kristina Gascon of Cal State Long Beach, Janice A. Rush of Long Beach City College and Mongrath Tith of Long Beach Poly were other winners.

Wanda Stevenson, supervisor of the port's records center, has been named the Port of Long Beach Employee of the Year. She has worked for the port since 1985.

Other nominees were Steven Sykora of the Communications Division, Christine Applequist of Engineering, Cindy Nguyen of Finance, Christi Thomsen of Information Management, James Deal, Paul Gallupe and Eric MacNeal of Maintenance, Christine Houston of Planning, Thomas Binckes of Properties and Robert Miller of Security.

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