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TIE LINES – June 2000

AROUND THE PORT...

The Port of Long Beach has presented its highest honor – the Port Pilot Award – to Chen Zhongbiao, chairman of the COSCO Group and China Ocean Shipping Co., for his contributions to the advancement of international trade.

Chen is Long Beach's 67th Port Pilot honoree since 1954. Others include members of Congress, Cabinet officials and presidents, including President Ronald Reagan. COSCO has been a customer at the port since 1981, when its ships began calling at Stevedoring Services of America's Pacific Container Terminal.

The Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners has awarded a \$33.6 million contract to Manson Construction Co. of Seattle, Wash., to dredge and extend the wharf for a 375-acre container shipping terminal under construction at the former Terminal Island naval complex.

Manson will dredge to a depth of minus 50 feet and extend the wharf by 1,325 feet. Work is expected to start in June and be completed by August 2001. With the Manson contract, the port has committed more than \$202 million toward the Pier T terminal, with contracts still to be awarded for paving, an on-dock rail yard and buildings.

Port officials are negotiating with Hanjin Shipping Co. of South Korea to lease the terminal.

A new consortium of shipping lines has launched a service to Central and South America with the *Maruba Trader*, a 1,500-TEU container ship operated by Argentina-based Maruba Lines, making its first call at Long Beach's International Transportation Service terminal.

Maruba recently joined forces with Americana Ships and Columbus Line, a subsidiary of Hamburg-Sud, to form AMPAC. The shipping lines will call at ports on the West Coast from Canada to South America. AMPAC will offer two separate vessel services. The biweekly, Americas-only service will call

at ports between Vancouver and Lirquen, Chile. The other biweekly service will operate between the Far East, Long Beach and West Coast South American ports including Guayaquil, Ecuador, and San Antonio, Chile.

AMPAC is the second consortium to begin service recently at ITS. In April, a joint Americas service offered by CSAV-Chilean Line and NYK Line began making calls in Long Beach.

With the Asian recovery continuing, the number of loaded outbound containers at the port climbed in April to 91,014 20-foot equivalent units (TEUs), an 18.1 percent gain over April 1999 and the biggest year-to-year increase for exports in four years.

Port terminals shipped 200,724 TEUs of loaded inbound containers in April, an increase of 10.5 percent over April 1999, and a sign that the U.S. economy remains strong.

After only four months, the eModal on-line container information system is already tracking more than 100,000 containers at one time.

Aimed at easing congestion at waterfront container terminals, eModal enables users to track containers and vessels at 16 West Coast terminals including four of Long Beach's eight container terminals: Pacific Container Terminal's Pier J facility (COSCO), PCT's C-60 facility (Zim), International Transportation Service ("K" Line), and California United Terminals (Hyundai). The information is available at: <http://www.eModal.com>.

With a celebration ceremony having been held last month, the transfer of the southern end of the Long Beach (710) Freeway from the City and Port of Long Beach to the state will be completed when Caltrans accepts the deed – probably at the end of June.

Caltrans is waiting for the City of Long Beach to repair guard rails and to finish other minor maintenance before it accepts the deed for the 710 between Pacific Coast Highway and Ocean Boulevard. With the transfer, Caltrans will take over maintenance of the southern end of the 710. The city and port have been responsible for maintenance.

Hanjin Shipping Co. has taken delivery of a 5,600-TEU container ship, named the *Hanjin Brussels*, chartered from the German finance and ship-owning firm, GEBAB.

The United Alliance of Hanjin, DSR-Senator and Cho Yang has deployed the 26-knot vessel in its weekly Pacific Southwest Pendulum service, which calls in Asia, Europe and North America including Long Beach. The *Hanjin Brussels* is the third of seven 5600-TEU ships that the Korean steamship line has ordered. Hanjin will introduce two more of the ships later this year, and the final two in 2001.

Zim Israel Navigation has ordered six new 4,800-TEU vessels for deployment in 2002 in its main global service, Zim Container Service, which calls in Haifa, Israel, the U.S. East Coast, Long Beach and Hong Kong .

These 24-knot vessels will replace seven 3,000-TEU vessels, which will be redeployed in Zim's round-the-world Asia Med Service.

The International Business Association has presented its ninth annual International Achievement Award to the Center for International Trade and Transportation at Cal State Long Beach for promoting a greater understanding of world trade.

The Long Beach Chamber of Commerce group made the presentation at the May 25 World Trade Week 2000 Luncheon and Trade Fair at the Hilton Long Beach.

Also at the World Trade Week luncheon, the Foreign Trade Association presented its 65th annual Stanley T. Olafson Bronze Plaque Award to its long-time executive secretary, Jay Winter, for his contributions to international trade.

Winter is also executive secretary of the Steamship Association of Southern California.

NASA's X-38 spacecraft prototype – a lifeboat for the International Space Station – was loaded aboard the *Maren Maersk* containership last month at Maersk Pacific's Pier J terminal.

The spacecraft was shipped aboard the *Maren Maersk* to this month's International Aerospace Exhibition in Berlin, Germany. The shipment was coordinated by Senator International Freight Forwarders of Los Angeles.

The Board of Harbor Commissioners has voted to allow Metropolitan Stevedore Co. to convert its coal shed on Pier G to store petroleum coke. Port officials will next negotiate a new lease with Metropolitan Stevedore.

Metropolitan plans to make \$4 million in improvements to the shed by the end of the year.

Wallenius-Wilhelmsen Line's roll on, roll off vessel *Tamesis* made its maiden call May 3 at the Cooper/T. Smith Terminal at Pier F.

The *Tamesis* is scheduled to call in Long Beach three times a year, hauling machinery between the U. S. and the Far East.

The *Tamesis* is the first of a new generation of Korean-built ships that Wallenius-Wilhelmsen will be using to carry heavy machinery that is rolled on and rolled off the vessel. The ships are also designed to handle container cargo. Wallenius-Wilhelmsen will be taking delivery on three more of the ships.

The day-long Electromex 2000 Conference, which will focus on the electronics industry in Mexico, will be held June 8 at the Westin hotel in Long Beach. The event is hosted by Long Beach City College's Center for International Trade Development and the California-Mexico Trade Assistance Center. For more information, call (562) 938-3244.

About 2,000 folks are expected to devour at least one ton of octopus, shrimp, halibut, salmon and other denizens of the deep at the annual ILWU/Propeller Club Seafood Feast from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. June 14 at the Port of Los Angeles' World Cruise Center, Berth 93-B in San Pedro.

The event has funded nearly \$100,000 in scholarships over the years for harbor-area high school seniors entering college. Tickets are \$35 each, and must be purchased in advance at ILWU offices or

by calling (818) 951-2842.

How the transportation industry will deal with this year's holiday shipping season is the topic of a panel discussion from 4:30 to 6 p.m. June 15 at The Reef Restaurant.

The event will be hosted by the Foreign Trade Association, Harbor Transportation Club, and the Steamship Association of Southern California. The program includes a dinner, and then a talk on the shortage of truck drivers by Michael Belzer of the University of Michigan's Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations. For reservations, call (213) 627-0634.

Port of Long Beach Chief Harbor Engineer Dan Allen will speak on port construction projects at a dinner meeting of the Western Council of Construction Consumers June 22 at the Queen Mary's Windsor Salon. For more information, call (800) 966-WCCC.

Joe Sachs of the U.S. Export Assistance Center will talk about "Export Success Stories" at the International Business Association luncheon June 23 at The Reef restaurant in Long Beach. For reservations, call (562) 436-1251.

The Steamship Association of Southern California will hold its annual Salute to the Harbor Commissioners" luncheon on June 28 at the Hyatt Regency hotel in Long Beach. The speaker will be Capt. Jerry Aspland of the California State Maritime Academy. For reservations, call (213) 627-0634.

PORT PEOPLE...

J. J. Kim has been named general manager of West Coast operations for Cho Yang (America). He is a graduate of Korea Maritime University & University of Washington and has been with Cho Yang for seven years.

Bruce D. D. Mac Rae, public affairs manager for United Parcel Service's Pacific region, has been elected chairman of the board of the World Trade Center Association Los Angeles-Long Beach.

He succeeds **Barry R. Sedlik**, Southern California Edison's manager of economic and business development.

Coast Guard Commander George Cummings has been named captain of the port for the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, succeeding Capt. George Wright, who has retired.

Cummings will hold the job only briefly, however. Capt. **John Holmes** is scheduled to take over the job beginning July 12.

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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