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February 2001

## AROUND THE PORT

**The Port of Long Beach broke its record for yearly container cargo volume, as its shipping terminals handled the equivalent of 4,600,787 twenty-foot-long container units in 2000, a 4.4 percent increase over 1999.**

Led by steady import gains and rebounding exports, the port surpassed last year's record 4,408,480 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs).

In calendar 2000, the number of imported cargo containers grew by 6 percent to nearly 2.5 million TEUs. The number of exported containers climbed by 5.6 percent to more than 1 million TEUs - the highest level since 1997 when an economic crisis began in Asia.

The port ended the year with 351,390 TEUs in December, a 3.8 percent decrease from the December 1999 total when fears of possible Y2K disruptions boosted shipments. This December's imports fell 2.7 percent to 180,631 TEUs, and exports declined 8.5 percent to 79,351 TEUs.

**The largest public works contract ever approved by Long Beach port officials was ceremonially signed last month in Shanghai.**

Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners President John Kashiwabara and port Executive Director Richard Steinke signed off on the purchase of 20 super post-Panamax container cranes worth \$143 million from Shanghai Zhenhua Port Machinery Co. (ZPMC).

The actual contract was approved in October. The cranes will be the most modern in the world and will be able to work container ships that are 22 containers wide. The first 12 cranes will be installed at the

new 375-acre Hanjin Terminal under construction on Terminal Island.

**The Board of Harbor Commissioners has approved a \$10.3 million contract with Palp Inc., which does business as Excel Paving Co. of Long Beach, for preparation of the entry area to the new Hanjin Terminal on Terminal Island.**

The low-bid contract calls for demolition, construction of utilities, installation of a drainage system, grading, and the realignment and expansion of Pier T Avenue. The work is to be completed by October. The first phase of the Hanjin Terminal is set to open next year.

**The Board of Harbor Commissioners has approved a \$100,000 preliminary contract with Long Beach-based Moffatt & Nichol Engineers to provide program management services for the port's decade-long, \$1.9 billion Mega-Terminals Program.**

The Moffatt & Nichol team, led by **Dick Wittkop**, a former Port of Los Angeles engineer, will provide scheduling, cost-control systems, estimating and engineering criteria for the mega-terminals. The port is planning to build new container terminals and consolidate existing ones, giving it five 300-plus-acre terminals within the next 12 years.

**Jacobsen Pilot Service will be upgrading its wind and water sensors and its video cameras to allow for real-time viewing on the Internet of weather conditions at the port.**

The Office of Spill Prevention and Response awarded \$317,334 to be split evenly between the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles for the installation of a new system, called the Physical Oceanography Real-Time System (PORTS). The system will provide real-time navigational information to the public, specifically port pilots, ships and the Marine Exchange.

The Los Angeles/Long Beach PORTS system will be operational by April 15 on the Marine Exchange web site at [www.marexlab.org](http://www.marexlab.org). Eventually, the system will be part of the Marine Exchange's new PortSource website, an Internet site that aims to be a one-stop venue with maritime information available on a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week basis. This site is expected to be up and running within the year.

**The Board of Harbor Commissioners has voted to contribute \$75,000 to Long Beach-based eModal for the development of software that will allow truckers and terminal operators to make appointments via the Internet for the delivery or pickup of cargo containers.**

The appointment system, called eModal Scheduler, will be accessible only at eModal's website: [www.emodal.com](http://www.emodal.com). EModal also provides information on the status of 190,000 containers, container terminals, vessel schedules and truck driver lists.

Founded in October 1999, eModal provides information for 25 terminals at six ports on both coasts.

During calendar year 2000, 5,936 ships arrived at the combined Long Beach/Los Angeles harbor complex, an increase of 8 percent over 1999 and the first time since 1990 that ship arrivals topped the

5,900-level.

Topping the vessel arrivals were container ships, which jumped 13 percent to 3,058 arrivals, reported the Marine Exchange of Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor.

**Sea Launch's latest mission, dubbed "Rock and Roll," hit a bad chord last month when the crew called off the launch after detecting a problem on the satellite. After it was later determined that there were no problems, the launch was rescheduled for Feb. 28.**

The mission involves launching two satellites -- one is called Rock, the other is dubbed Roll - that will transmit up to 100 channels of digital-quality music, news, sports, talk, comedy and children's programming to subscribers across the continental United States. Following the launch of "Rock," the other satellite will be launched later in the year.

**Foss Maritime Co. of Seattle has announced plans to build a new class of the highest-horsepower tugs on the West Coast devoted exclusively to ship docking.**

Halter Marine Inc. in Lockport, La., will construct the new series of 6,250-horsepower tugs for use in the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles. The tugs are scheduled for arrival early in the fourth quarter.

**Officials from the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority and the city of Lynwood have dedicated the Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard Bridge, one of the 29 bridges that will carry street traffic over the mid-corridor trench at existing and new Alameda Street crossings.**

ACTA, a partnership between the cities and ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, is overseeing the construction of a 20-mile rail cargo expressway between the ports and the transcontinental rail yards near downtown Los Angeles. The mid-corridor trench will be about 10 miles long.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard Bridge was built as part of the \$712 million contract for the trench. Construction of the entire \$2.4 billion project is expected to be completed in April 2002.

**The Port of Long Beach has awarded a \$5.3 million job to upgrade bulk-loading facilities on Pier G to Spantec Constructors.**

The upgrades, which include constructing a new truck dump and enclosing the facility's conveyor system, are to comply with new air quality regulations on coal, petroleum coke and sulfur.

**The container ship *Hanjin Geneva* made its maiden call to the port on Jan. 26 at Hanjin's Pier A terminal.**

The *Geneva* is the last in a series of seven 5,600-TEU-class container ships built at the Hanjin Heavy Industries shipyard in South Korea and chartered from German finance and ship-owning concern Conti Reederei.

The *Geneva* has been deployed in a United Alliance pendulum service that calls in Asia, Europe and North America.

**With the goal of promoting more efficient cargo movement through the use of new technology, more than a dozen importers have formed the West Coast Waterfront Coalition.**

Members of the coalition include such businesses as Target, Toyota, and Wal-Mart and organizations as the Agriculture Ocean Transport Coalition, International Mass Retail Association and Pacific Merchant Shipping Association.

The coalition includes shippers, freight forwarders, customs brokers, terminal operators and others involved in the supply chain. For more information, contact the coalition's president, **Robin Lanier**, at (202) 463-8493.

**“K” Line will soon be including a port call at Shanghai on its transpacific ASX service. Beginning this month or in early March, the re-jiggered service, which is made possible by the introduction of faster ships, will also include calls at Kobe, Japan, and Busan, Korea.**

The Port of Keelung, Taiwan, which is called on the existing service, will be dropped.

Thus the new ASX schedule will be: Hong Kong, Kaohsiung (Taiwan), Long Beach, Oakland, Kobe, Busan, Shanghai and Hong Kong. Five vessels, ranging from 2,800 to 3,500 TEUs will be deployed: *Humber Bridge, Manhattan Bridge, San Pedro Bridge, Garden Bridge and Santa Elena.*

**Geraldine Knatz, the Port of Long Beach's managing director of development, will be among the panelists for a Feb. 8 discussion on air quality and the shipping industry hosted by Women in International Trade.**

The panel discussion will be held from 9:30 to 11:30 p.m. at the Radisson-Newport Beach. The luncheon speaker will be former “K” Line executive **Theodore Prince** of Transgistics. For reservations, call (949) 851-1888.

**“Protecting Your Cargo” will be topic of a panel discussion at the Feb. 13 breakfast meeting of the Foreign Trade Association of Southern California.** The event, from 8 to 11:15 a.m., will be held at the Holiday Inn Torrance Gateway, 19800 S. Vermont Ave. For more information, call (213) 627-0634.

**Improving cargo movement in Southern California will be the subject of Part II of the ILWU's Town Hall Meeting, which will be held 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. Feb. 15 at Cal State Long Beach's Carpenter Performing Arts Center.** Admission is free, but seating is limited.

**Long Beach Community College is one of the host campuses for a 10-part series on international trade sponsored by Sanwa Bank California.**

Class topics include “Legal Issues in the Global Marketplace” held 9 a.m. to noon Feb. 21 at LBCC's

Center for International Trade Development office; “Export Pricing” held 9 a.m. to noon Feb. 8 at the same location; and “International Sales Promotion” held 9 a.m. to noon Feb. 22 also at LBCC. For more information call (562) 938-5016.

**Port of Long Beach Executive Director Richard D. Steinke will discuss the “State of the Port” at the monthly luncheon meeting of the International Business Association.** The event will be held at the Westin Long Beach Hotel. For more information, call (562) 432-8128.

**George McShea of Polar Tankers will talk about his company’s Millennium Class ships at a Feb. 28 luncheon hosted by the Propeller Club.** The lunch will be held at the West Coast Long Beach Hotel. For more information, call (818) 951-2842.

**The 14th annual Asia/Pacific Business Outlook 2001 conference will be held March 22-23 at the University of Southern California’s Davidson Conference Center.** For more information on the two-day event, call (213) 740-7130.

## **PORT PEOPLE**

**The Port of Long Beach has recognized Caltrans employees Doug Failing, John Iwasaki, Greg Farr and Steve Novotny, for their roles in the transfer of ownership of the most heavily traveled segment of Long Beach (710) Freeway, between Pacific Coast Highway and Ocean Boulevard.**

Failing and Iwasaki participated in the transfer process since the time it was conceptualized in 1982, and they were key to completing the process last year.

**Port Security Officer Jacob Atwood will receive a Community Service Award from the Long Beach Fire Department at its 30th Annual Meritorious Awards luncheon on Feb. 20 at the Westin Long Beach Hotel.**

Atwood will be honored for attempting to save the life of a longshoreman last October. Atwood administered CPR to the longshoreman after he collapsed, apparently of a heart attack, while working aboard a vessel docked at the International Transportation Service terminal. Despite Atwood’s efforts, the longshoremen later died.

**Former board member for the International Seafarers Center, John L. “Jack” Gescheider, died last month at the age of 80.**

Gescheider moved from Ohio to Long Beach in 1928. Following his retirement from the Bank of America, the former Navy officer volunteered for many organizations, including the International Seafarers Center.

**Recently elected state Assemblywoman Jenny Oropeza, a former Long Beach city councilwoman, will chair the Assembly’s International Trade Subcommittee.**

The subcommittee promotes international trade, oversees California's overseas trade offices and handles transportation issues relating to trade.

**Former Port of Long Beach Marketing Manager Harold J. "Hal" Hilliard died on Jan. 23 in Stockton, following complications from a stroke.** He was 59 years old.

Hilliard worked for 30 years in the maritime industry, including nine years with the port, leaving last year to take the position of marketing and public relations director with the Port of Stockton.

During his years in Southern California, he served as president of the Steamship Association of Southern California and chairman of the Marine Exchange of Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor. He also served on the boards of the Long Beach Area Council Boy Scouts of America and the Seamen's Church Institute of San Pedro. He was an Army veteran who served in Vietnam.

He is survived by his wife, Rosemary Hilliard; two sons, Frederick and Mathew Hilliard; two stepsons, Mark and Garth Wateny; and four grandchildren.

#### **E-MAIL NEWS BULLETINS!**

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

To sign up, send a blank e-mail to  
[\*\*polb-subscribe@yahogroups.com\*\*](mailto:polb-subscribe@yahogroups.com)

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