



**March 2003**

## **AROUND THE PORT . . .**

**Shipping terminals at the Port of Long Beach handled the equivalent of 4,526,365 twenty-foot-long container units in 2002, an increase of 1.4 percent over 2001 and the second-best total in port history.**

“Overall cargo growth was strong in 2002, and we expect the growth to continue in 2003,” said port Executive Director Richard D. Steinke. For the year, inbound container cargo climbed 1.3 percent. The port’s imports include such retail goods as consumer electronics, toys, clothing, shoes and household products.

Outbound container cargo fell 10.2 percent. The port’s leading exports include factory machinery and raw materials. With the imbalance in trade, the number of empty containers, nearly all headed back overseas to be re-filled with merchandise, jumped 11.9 percent.

**The port completed the year in December with container cargo volume virtually equal to December 2001, although after factoring out the departure of a leading shipping line, the remaining terminals showed major gains.**

The port’s shipping terminals moved a total of 361,962 twenty-foot-equivalent units (TEUs) in December, an increase of 0.7 percent over last December’s total.

Compared with December 2001, imports slipped 2.8 percent to 186,243 TEUs this December. Exports dropped 23.2 percent to 64,262 TEUs. With the terminals clearing their yards of a backlog of empty containers, empties increased 32.2 percent to 111,457 TEUs.

Without the December 2001 totals of Maersk Sealand (which stopped calling in Long Beach in August), the port’s “same terminals” reported a 34.3 percent jump in overall container volume in December. Their

imports climbed 30.5 percent. Exports were up 4 percent. Empties increased 71.4 percent.

### **The 4,800-TEU Zim Shanghai docked at Pier A on Jan. 19, marking Zim Israeli Navigation Co.'s first call at the 170-acre terminal operated by SSA Terminals-Long Beach.**

Zim joins Geneva-based Mediterranean Shipping Co. as SSAT's key customers at Pier A, which until last year was the home of Hanjin Shipping Co. and the Port of Long Beach's largest container terminal. Under a 25-year lease with the port, SSAT launched its operations at Pier A in December, moving in after Hanjin moved in September to a new, 375-acre terminal at Pier T.

Zim's first vessel call at Pier A signals its move from another of SSAT's Long Beach facilities, the 59-acre Pier C container terminal where the Israeli ocean carrier has called since 1999. Zim is a leading global ocean carrier with a fleet of more than 80 vessels.

### **With Zim's move to Pier A, Matson Navigation Co. Inc., the leading ocean carrier between the U.S. mainland and Hawaii, is moving to Pier C from the Port of Los Angeles.**

Matson's first vessel, the Lihue, called at Pier C on Jan. 29. Matson is set to move into offices at Pier C on Feb. 3. The port is expanding the Pier C complex, redeveloping 11 acres of land to accommodate Matson's automobile-shipping business. Also known as "C-60," Pier C is located in the port's inner harbor.

### **The Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners has approved a partial assignment of rights between Metropolitan Stevedore Co. and Trona Export Terminals LLC for the operation of the port's dry-bulk terminal at Pier G.**

Based in Wilmington, Calif., Metropolitan Stevedore (Metro) has operated the 22-acre Pier G complex under a 25-year lease with the port since 1981. Trona is a joint venture formed by Metro and Kansas-based IMC Chemicals Inc., which produces soda ash, borax, boric acid and natural sodium sulfate in the mineral and chemically rich Mojave Desert. The joint venture will allow IMC to shift its export operations, which had been split between Long Beach and the Port of San Diego, primarily to the Pier G complex in Long Beach. The accord is expected to annually generate a minimum of 600,000 metric tons of "white product."

### **The City of Long Beach has presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the port and its Planning Division for their pioneering work in storm water management.**

During the last decade, the port has been a leader in developing programs to prevent storm water run-off from polluting the harbor. The

port has worked closely with shipping terminal operators to limit and monitor the flow of pollutants into storm drains.

The programs includes training sessions, warning signs, more frequent sweeping and the use of drip pans while working on equipment. The Planning Division follows up with inspections and water quality monitoring.

**The port has completed a 30-acre landfill at Pier E Slip 2, clearing the way for California United Terminals to begin using the land for its container cargo-handling operations.**

Under a \$7.9 million contract, Anaheim-based Sully-Miller Contracting Co. completed the final work including grading, drainage, paving and utilities. The landfill gives CUT a total of 105 acres for its container operations.

**The International Transportation Service Pier J container terminal has begun using a newly expanded and reconfigured truck gate, which now has 10 lanes – twice as many as it had previously.**

The gate complex includes scales, updated technology for truck registration, expanded staff parking, and a “trouble” area outside the gate.

During February, the port expects to complete an expansion of the ITS on-dock rail yard, with the addition of 15,000 feet of storage track.

**The port has completed its Gerald Desmond Bridge widening project, which relocated the sidewalk to the south side of the bridge and created one additional lane.**

There are now three lanes for traffic climbing the bridge and two lanes as traffic descends. This configuration allows faster vehicles climbing the bridge to use the inside lanes for passing. The result is improved traffic flow between the southern end of the Long Beach (710) Freeway and the Terminal Island Freeway/Ocean Boulevard intersection.

**The 2003 edition of the Port of Long Beach Reference Guide & Tidetables is now available. Copies can be picked up in the lobby of the port Administration Building, 925 Harbor Plaza.**

The free, 80-page booklet features facts and figures about the port complex, maps, information on tugs, vessel operating procedures and more. The yearly publication is jointly produced by the port and Jacobsen Pilot Service.

**Ending a months-long dispute, an employers group and union dockworkers have overwhelmingly ratified a landmark contract that will assure labor peace at West Coast ports for at least the next five-and-a-half years.**

The contract takes effect Feb. 1 and expires on June 30, 2008. The accord between the International Longshore and Warehouse Union and the Pacific Maritime Association will allow shipping terminal operators to use technology similar to grocery store scanners, automobile GPS location finders, and e-mail-like data transfer systems to track cargo. For longshoremen, the pact includes wage increases, fully paid health care, a 58 percent hike in pension benefits, and job protection for workers who may see their duties replaced by technology.

**Vessel traffic in San Pedro Bay declined 5 percent in 2002 to 5,396 ship arrivals at Long Beach and Los Angeles harbors, according to the Marine Exchange, a nonprofit trade organization that monitors vessel traffic.**

Vessel counts were lower than a year ago in every month except February, August and September, indicating that the declines were not due the labor disruption of the fall.

Bunker only calls fell 24 percent; passenger ships declined 20 percent; dry-bulk vessels off 11 percent; tankers down 7 percent; and container ships dropped 4 percent.

**This year, Chinese New Year's Day is Feb. 1 – the first day of the Year of the Sheep (AKA Year of the Ram and Year of the Goat).**

Most work places in China and elsewhere in the Chinese-speaking world will close during the first week or so of the New Year. Since it takes a vessel about two weeks to cross the Pacific, Long Beach will see a slowing in imports beginning in mid-February.

**The U.S. Coast Guard will hold a meeting to discuss plans for port and vessel security from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 5 at the Port of Los Angeles, 425 S. Palos Verdes St., San Pedro. For information, call (310) 732-7354.**

**Retailing consultant Robin Lanier will talk about “The State of the American Supply Chain” at a special breakfast meeting Feb. 5 hosted by the International Business Association.**

Lanier's clients include the West Coast Waterfront Coalition of major retailers and importers. The breakfast will be held at the Westin Long Beach Hotel. For information, call (562) 432-8128.

**Robin Lanier also is the speaker for the Los Angeles Transportation Club lunch Feb. 5 at the Reef Restaurant in Long Beach. For information, call (562) 856-9197.**

**Former Congressman Steven T. Kuykendall will present “An Insiders View of Washington, D.C.,” at the Propeller Club's Feb. 6 luncheon at the West Coast Long Beach Hotel. For more**

information, call (818) 951-2842.

**At the Feb. 6 dinner meeting of the Harbor Transportation Club, George Larrazolo of American Riggers will recount how his company moved the Spruce Goose into the Queen Mary's geodesic dome in 1980. The dinner will be at the Reef Restaurant in Long Beach. For more information, call (562) 434-7393.**

**The Long Beach Qingdao Sister City Association will host its sixth annual Chinese New Year dinner beginning 5:30 p.m. Feb. 8 at the Boeing PacificCenter, 3855 Lakewood Blvd., Long Beach. For more information, call (562) 499-2171.**

**The third module of Cal State Long Beach's global logistics specialist program begins Feb. 19. The four evenings cover legal, financial and risk management issues. For information, call (562) 296-1170.**

Separately, the school's Master of Arts in Global Logistics program is accepting applications. For information, call (562) 296-1172.

**Jacki Bacharach, a government relations consultant, will be the speaker at the Feb. 28 luncheon meeting of the International Business Association at the Westin Long Beach Hotel.**

Bacharach will talk about alternatives under study to ease congestion on the Long Beach (710) Freeway. For more information, call (562) 432-8128.

**The Military Sealift Command will host all-day seafarers job fairs on Feb. 28 and March 1 at the West Coast Long Beach Hotel.**

The Military Sealift Command is the branch of the U.S. Navy responsible for supplying Navy vessels around the world. Sealift Command ships are crewed by civilian mariners, including engineers, deck officers, mechanics, technicians, storekeepers, cooks and other specialties. For more information, call (877) JOBS-MSA.

**The Journal of Commerce will present its third annual Trans-Pacific Maritime Conference March 3 and 4 at the Hyatt Regency hotel in Long Beach.**

The Port of Long Beach is the host. For more information, call (858) 485-9978.

## **PORT PEOPLE. . .**

**The port has presented its highest honor – the Honorary Port Pilot Award – to Steve Horn, the recently retired, five-term Congressman for the Long Beach area and a strong, respected advocate for the**

## **port in Washington.**

“For a decade, Steve has been our political conscience in Washington,” said Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners President John W. Hancock.

Horn is Long Beach’s 70th Port Pilot honoree. Horn, first elected in 1992 as the Congressman for the 38th District, served on the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, which plays a key role in the development of the port and the \$2.4 billion Alameda Corridor express rail project.

**Kathryn McDermott, the port’s manager of leasing, has been named acting director of the Properties Division. She fills a vacancy left after Hal Duensing retired in December.**

McDermott came to the port in 1995 after 12 years with Southern Pacific Railroad managing, selling and leasing property.

### **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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