

CLOSE WINDOW



May 2003

AROUND THE PORT . . .

Boosted by post-Chinese New Year shipments, container terminals at the Port of Long Beach handled the equivalent of 356,532 twenty-foot-long container cargo units in March, an increase of 3.8 percent over March 2002.

Inbound container shipments rose 4.6 percent to the equivalent of 179,800 twenty-foot-long container units – the first time that monthly imports were higher than last year’s monthly imports since August 2002. Last August, one of the port’s leading shipping lines stopped calling at the port. Other shipping lines have moved into the vacated terminals, and are beginning to make up the difference in cargo traffic.

Exports remain weak with outbound container cargo falling 5.7 percent to 82,797 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs), compared with March 2002. The number of empty containers shipped through the port climbed 12.0 percent to 93,935 TEUs. Most of the empties were headed overseas.

Moving forward with its commitment to enhance air quality, the Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners has authorized a \$350,000 study on the feasibility of ships using electric power rather than internal combustion engines while at berth.

The board selected a team led by Environ International to conduct the feasibility study, which will analyze a range of factors such as vessel retrofit requirements, power demands, shore-side infrastructure needs, estimated costs and potential emission reductions. Results of the study are expected in six months.

The study of shore-side electrification of ships, called “cold-ironing,” is part of Healthy Harbor Long Beach, the port’s comprehensive initiative to improve air quality, water quality and wildlife habitat through existing

and new programs.

An estimated one-third of vessel emissions occur while they are at berth. While docked, vessels shut off their main engines but use auxiliary diesel and steam engines to power refrigeration, lights, pumps and other functions. Replacing auxiliary engines with on-shore electric power could significantly reduce emissions.

Also as part of its Healthy Harbor initiative, the port has begun implementing an Off-Road Diesel Emission Reduction Program, which will fund qualified projects such as the retrofitting or modification of existing diesel-fueled equipment to reduce emissions of air contaminants.

The program covers equipment operated by port terminals including yard hostlers and heavy-duty forklifts.

The port offers a brochure with information on the program including alternative-fuel equipment options. For a copy of the brochure and more information, call **Thomas Jelenic** in the port's Planning Division at (562) 590-4160.

Taking another step to beef up security, the Board of Harbor Commissioners has voted to seek bids for a video surveillance system that would include as many as 50 cameras and cost an estimated \$5.5 million.

Targeted for completion by May 2004, the surveillance cameras would be monitored around the clock by a team of approximately nine new employees. The cameras would be positioned throughout the port. They also could be used to monitor street traffic.

The U.S. Department of Transportation awarded the port a \$4 million grant for the surveillance system last year. The port will pay the balance of the costs, and request additional federal security grant funds.

The cameras are one in a series of steps taken to tighten port security in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Other measures include additional patrols on land and water, restricted access to port facilities, routine Coast Guard inspections of vessels, expanded Customs inspections of cargo, and stricter requirements on cargo manifests.

A comprehensive update of the port's economic impact has found that 30,000 Long Beach jobs or one in eight local jobs is supported by trade through the port – nearly twice as many jobs as attributed to trade in the last study completed in 1996.

Trade through the port generates 1.4 million trade-related jobs throughout the nation; and 320,000 jobs, or one in 22 regional jobs, in a five-county region consisting of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside and Ventura counties.

The port's economic impact was calculated with a new computer model developed jointly by the port Planning Division and Rutgers University.

Having outgrown its stevedoring roots to include international terminal development and other waterfront activities, Seattle-based Stevedoring Services of America has been re-named SSA Marine.

SSA Marine's parent company, FRS Corp. for founder **Fred R. Smith**, has been re-named Carrix, from the "carrick" bend knot know for its strength and symmetry.

Now that SSA and China Ocean Shipping Co. have merged their Pacific Container Terminal with the former Maersk terminal on Pier J, COSCO plans to move more than 50 members of its staff from offices in downtown Long Beach and Los Angeles into the former Maersk Pier J administration building.

The move will be made in several phases over the next few months.

Four of Long Beach's container terminals – International Transportation Service (ITS), Long Beach Container Terminal (LBCT), Pacific Container Terminal (PCT) and SSAT's Pier A facility -- are among the first terminal operators to launch e-Modal's new on-line trucker appointment system.

EModal's Scheduler appointment system was designed to ease queue backups at terminal gates, and reduce traffic on port roadways and freeways.

"The Port of Long Beach has been a supporter of the eModal appointment system throughout its development," said port Executive Director **Richard Steinke**. "Terminals in our port have sent a strong message to the trucking community that they are prepared to work together."

The system, at www.emodal.com, is aimed at allowing port terminals and trucking companies to establish optimal pick-up and delivery appointments.

With the end of the war in Iraq, the Homeland Security Administration has lowered the terrorist threat level to "yellow," and the Coast Guard has lowered the threat level in San Pedro Bay to Maritime Security (Marsec) Level 1 or "new normalcy."

At the Level 1, terminal operators and others at the port will maintain the limited access and extra security deployed after Sept. 11, but not the random searches of vehicles and escorts under Level 2.

P&O Nedlloyd's 6,802-TEU *Stuyvesant*, the largest container ship to ever call at the Port of Long Beach, made its maiden voyage on April 25 to the Long Beach Container Terminal (LBCT) facility at

Pier F.

The *Stuyvesant* will be calling regularly at LBCT, which is the home of Hong Kong-based Orient Overseas Container Line. OOCL is a member of the Grand Alliance, which includes the UK's P&O Nedlloyd, Germany's Hapag-Lloyd and NYK Line of Japan.

The *Stuyvesant* will be calling in Long Beach and Far East ports including Kaohsiung, Hong Kong and Singapore.

German-based Hamburg Sud Group has acquired Kien Hung Shipping of Taiwan's seven liner services serving the Far East, U.S. West Coast, South America, South Africa and West Africa.

Kien Hung Line/Hamburg Sud's Far East/West Coast/South America service calls in Long Beach at the International Transportation Service container terminal at Piers G/J.

Carnival Corp., the world's leading cruise line, has opened its \$40 million "Long Beach Cruise Terminal at the Queen Mary." The facility includes a single berth for vessels up to 1,000 feet long, a 1,450-vehicle parking structure, and a boarding terminal located in part of the former Spruce Goose dome.

The Long Beach facility will be the West Coast's busiest cruise terminal in terms of passenger traffic, with an expected half-million passengers annually.

The terminal is the homeport for the 2,052-passenger *Ecstasy* and its sister ship, the *Elation*. In September, the 2,124-passenger *Carnival Pride* will replace the *Elation*.

The Pacific Merchant Shipping Association has merged with the Steamship Association of Southern California to represent the maritime industry on issues such as legislation and regulations.

With the merger, the combined group will operate as the PMSA with offices in San Francisco and Southern California.

Jane A. Beseda of Toyota Motor Sales USA will be the speaker for the Los Angeles Transportation Club's May 6 luncheon at the Norwalk Marriott Hotel. For information, call (562) 856-9197.

James Hankla, CEO of the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority, will be the speaker for the International Business Association's World Trade Week luncheon May 16 at the Hilton Long Beach Hotel. For information, call (562) 432-8128.

The Foreign Trade Association's 77th annual World Trade Week luncheon and trade fair will be held May 20 at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles.

Amir Dossal of the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships will be the speaker. For information, call (323) 730-1011.

The 16th annual Seafood Feast will be held June 11 at Berth 54 in San Pedro. The event is hosted by the International Longshore and Warehouse Union and the Propeller Club, with proceeds going to a memorial scholarship fund. For information, call (818) 951-2842.

PORT PEOPLE. . .

Toshio Suzuki, formerly a regional vice president in Chicago, has been promoted to president and CEO of “K” Line America Inc. He succeeds Yoshio Iinuma who returned to Tokyo as a senior managing director.

Suzuki has been with “K” Line since 1970, and in the Chicago office since 1991.

Kathryn McDermott has been promoted to director of properties for the Port of Long Beach. McDermott, formerly manager of leasing, had been the acting properties director since Hal Duensing retired late last year.

McDermott, who came to the port in 1995 from the real estate department of Southern Pacific Railroad, has extensive knowledge of property contracts, title issues, and has 20 years of experience in the negotiation of property leases, acquisitions and easements.

With McDermott’s promotion, **Karl Adamowicz** has been named the port’s manager of leasing. Adamowicz has been a leasing officer with the port since 1997.

Christi Thomsen, an office automation analyst in the Information Management Division, has been named the port’s 2003 Employee of the Year.

Nominees included **Art Wong** of the Communications Division; **Dale Hutchison** of the Engineering Division; **Vivian Chang** of Finance; **Dawn Covarrubias**, **Reginald Givins**, **Kenneth Reynolds** and **Gerard Slyker** of Maintenance; **Thomas Jelenic** of Planning; and **Karl Adamowicz** of Properties.

In an effort to encourage young people to pursue trade-related careers, the port is awarding \$10,500 in scholarships to 13 students this year.

Scholarships are going to Cal State Long Beach international business students **Selecia Pung** and **Angelica Torres**. The port’s Long Beach City College **Woodrow Wilson** Memorial Scholarships are going to **Alejandra Lopez**, **Monacita M. Montano**, **Dexter E. Prive**, **Jennifer P. Huerta**, **Andriy Khomenko** and **John H. Fawcett**.

Wilson is a former port security director.

The port also is awarding scholarships to students at the Long Beach City College School of Trades and Industrial Technologies: **Jason R. Davenport** (advanced transportation technology), **Michael C. Agnew** (welding), **Edmond A. Buehning** (heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration) and **William J. Secrest** (sheet metal).

The port has awarded \$85,500 in scholarships to 103 students since 1993.

Cal State Long Beach student Elizabeth Ryazantseva has been selected the winner of the annual International Business Association World Trade Week poster contest. In the high school category, Wilson High School student Alberto Alvarez was the winner.

The 38 posters submitted for the contest will be on display in the lobby of the port Administration Building, 925 Harbor Plaza, through much of World Trade Week in May.

Long Beach City College student Addison Hunt III was the winner of the IBA's World Trade Week speech contest. Long Beach Poly High School student Tara Treffry was the runner-up.

The port is a sponsor of the IBA's World Trade Week activities.

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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