CLOSE WINDOW



August 2003

AROUND THE PORT . . .

Escorted by water-spraying fireboats and tugs, Orient Overseas Container Line's *OOCL Long Beach* – one of the world's two largest container ships with a capacity of more than 8,000 twenty-foot containers – arrived before dawn Friday, July 25, on its maiden call at the Port of Long Beach.

The ship docked at Long Beach Container Terminal, a Pier F facility leased by an OOCL subsidiary. *The OOCL Long Beach* is among a new generation of 8,000-twenty-foot-equivalent-unit (TEU) vessels that have leapfrogged a generation of 6,600-TEU ships that made their first calls in Long Beach only four years ago.

Commemorating the maiden call, Long Beach Harbor Commissioner President **John Hancock** made a presentation to **C.C. Tung**, chairman and CEO of OOCL International. Tung's niece, **Audrey T. Slighton**, acted as "sponsor" of the new vessel at a dockside naming ceremony. "I name you *OOCL Long Beach*," she declared.

The newly built *OOCL Long Beach* is the second of ten 8,063-TEU SX-class vessels that OOCL will take delivery of during the next three years from shipbuilder Samsung Heavy Industries Co. Ltd. of South Korea.

The OOCL Long Beach, which is deployed temporarily in OOCL's transpacific service, is 1,056 feet or 323 meters long, nearly the length of four football fields. The ship is 140 feet or 42.8 meters wide, wide enough for 17 containers. The vessel's draft is 47.5 feet or 14.5 meters. The OOCL Long Beach is designed with environmentally friendly features including a specially designed hull that allows the vessel to consume less fuel, but maintain a high service speed of 25 knots. The vessel also is designed to burn low-sulfur fuel with much reduced sulfur

oxide emissions. Tin-free paint is used to reduce toxicity to marine life.

Hanjin Shipping Co.'s Long Beach terminal operator, Total Terminals International, has announced a service agreement offering stevedoring and terminal services to one of the two largest Chinese carriers, China Shipping Container Lines, beginning next summer.

TTI, a partnership of Hanjin Shipping and Marine Terminals Corp., and China Shipping Group signed the Pier T service agreement on July 28 in Shanghai.

China Shipping is planning to launch a transpacific service with 8,000-TEU vessels that it will take delivery of beginning next year. The 8,000-TEU ships would call at Hanjin's Pier T terminal.

Opened a year ago, Hanjin's Long Beach terminal's first phase covered 288 acres. Additional land will soon expand the facility to a total of 375 acres. The \$576 million facility features a 3,700-foot-long wharf. A 1,300-foot-long wharf extension is under construction and due for completion next year. The terminal's intermodal rail yard features 83,000 feet of track. The terminal is equipped with 12 super-size gantry cranes that can stretch across vessels 22 containers wide.

In June, shipping lines moved 386,516 TEUs through Long Beach, a decline of 7.7 percent from June 2002 when importers were shipping extra cargo ahead of a looming showdown between employers and longshoremen.

The port's cargo container totals have been lower since last August when Maersk Sealand, which had accounted for nearly one-quarter of Long Beach's container volume, moved to the Port of Los Angeles. In June, the number of imported containers dropped 13.5 percent to 204,344 TEUs – Long Beach's highest import total since August. Exports slipped 6.4 percent to 70,992 TEUs. The number of empty containers, nearly all headed overseas, climbed 3.9 percent to 111,180 TEUs.

For the first six months of the year, imports were down 11.4 percent, exports off 12 percent, empties up 14.4 percent and the total for the first half down 5.2 percent.

The Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners has adopted a \$402.4 million budget for the 2003-04 fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, maintaining enhanced security and the port's commitment to environmental improvements.

The 12-month spending plan includes \$26 million for police and fire services, a new video surveillance system and a new command and control center. More than \$24 million is budgeted for the port's Healthy

Harbor environmental improvement program, which includes a project to reduce petroleum coke dust and diesel emissions reduction programs, and wetlands mitigation.

The budget includes \$216.8 million in capital outlays including terminal construction projects at Piers G, S and T, and a new Ocean Boulevard/Terminal Island Freeway interchange.

The budget next goes to the City Council for approval. The council will hold hearings on city department budgets between mid-August and the end of September.

The Board of Harbor Commissioners has given its preliminary approval for the acquisition of a surplus Coast Guard patrol boat to be used as a backup for two Long Beach police patrol boats.

If the commission gives its final approval, the port would pay a \$5,000 processing fee to the California Agency for Surplus Property to acquire the nine-year-old, 24-foot-long boat.

Port officials welcomed the 3,000-TEU *MSC Nederland* on July 9 during its maiden call at SSA Terminal's Pier A facility. A sister ship, the *MSC Greece*, was welcomed during its first call to Long Beach on July 16.

The two ships are among five that Mediterranean Shipping Co. has deployed on a new transpacific service from China and Hong Kong to Long Beach.

The port's Trade and Maritime Services Division is recruiting for its "wharfinger" classification. Applicants should have knowledge of marine shipping documents, and experience in property management and customer service.

A wharfinger is a port customer relations representative who is responsible for handling day-to-day port operations, including port tariff enforcement, lease compliance, permits and customer service requests. Applications may apply on-line at http://www.longbeach.gov/civilservice or call the Long Beach Civil Service Department at (562) 570-6202.

After a trip from the Great Lakes by way of Halifax and the Panama Canal, Jacobsen Pilot Service's new pilot boat arrived in Long Beach on July 25 aboard the *Zim Mediterranean* at SSA Terminal's Pier A facility.

The Canadian-built boat, called the *Vega*, will replace Jacobsen's 30-year-old pilot boat, the *Venus*. The *Vega* is 59 feet long, 32 tons, and capable of a top speed of 30 knots.

The *Vega* will be used, along with Jacobsen's second pilot boat, the *Polaris*, to shuttle its pilots to and from their duties guiding vessels in and out of the port.

Caltrans has completed a series of 55-hour weekend closures of the Long Beach (710) Freeway south of the San Diego (405) Freeway as part of a \$16.7 million re-pavement project.

Caltrans had originally scheduled ten 55-hour closures but completed the work during eight weekends. There will be shorter lane closures as work continues on minor completion and maintenance work. Completion of the project, which includes replacing the metal median barriers with concrete barriers and widening the freeway shoulders, is scheduled for the fall.

The Cal State Long Beach Global Logistics Specialist program will offer its Module One sessions beginning 6:30 p.m. Aug. 5 at the CSULB campus.

The five two-hour classes will cover containerization, supply chain management and information systems in the logistics industry. Module Three, four three-hour sessions that cover legal, financial and risk management issues, will begin 6:30 p.m. Aug. 27. For more information, call (562) 296-1170.

Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez, D-Garden Grove, is hosting a import/export seminar, "Making Trade Secure and Profitable in Today's Global Economy," from noon to 3 p.m. Aug. 7 at the Downtown Community Center, 250 E. Center St., Anaheim. For more information, call (714) 765-4500.

Carol Coy of the Air Quality Management District will talk about Assemblyman Alan Lowenthal's truck idling bill at the Aug. 7 dinner meeting of the Harbor Transportation Club.

The event will be held at the Reef Restaurant in Long Beach. For more information, call (562) 434-7393.

The Foreign Trade Association's 31st Annual Golf Tournament will be held Aug. 7 at the Brookside Golf Course in Pasadena. For information, call (323) 730-1011.

Robert Costello, chief economist for the American Trucking Association, will be the speaker at the Aug. 12 luncheon meeting of the Los Angeles Trade Club.

The event will be held at the Norwalk Marriott Hotel. For information, call (562) 856-9197.

A free workshop for the maritime industry on "Extended Terminal Gate Hours" will be held from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Aug. 14 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Long Beach.

The workshop will show shippers, terminal operators, importers, exporters, customer brokers, labor, warehousemen and drayage companies the benefits using the growing number of off-hour gates at the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles. The benefits include an easing of roadway and terminal traffic congestion.

The workshop will include a presentation by Mattel Inc. on how it has benefited from non-peak hour drayage. The two ports, Pacific Merchant Shipping Association and the Waterfront Coalition, are sponsoring the workshop. For more information, call (202) 861-0825, ext. 203.

Long Beach Vice Mayor Frank Colonna will talk about international trade at the Aug. 20 luncheon meeting of the International Trade Club.

The event will be held at the Reef Restaurant in Long Beach. For information, call (562) 434-7393.

PORT PEOPLE...

The Board of Harbor Commissioners has selected newly appointed Commissioner James Hankla, the former CEO for the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority, as one of the board's representatives to the ACTA governing board.

Hankla succeeds **Roy Hearrean**, whose term on the Harbor Commission recently ended. The Harbor Commission also re-appointed port Executive Director **Richard Steinke** as its other representative to ACTA. Named as alternates were commission President **John Hancock** and **Geraldine Knatz**, the port's managing director of development.

The ACTA governing board has selected Long Beach Vice Mayor Frank Colonna as its board chairman. Colonna succeeds Los Angeles City Councilwoman Janice Hahn as ACTA chair.

Hahn becomes ACTA's vice chairwoman. Leadership of ACTA's board traditionally rotates between the representatives of the Los Angeles and Long Beach city councils.

The ACTA board has named **John Doherty** as the agency's CEO. Doherty, who formerly directed construction for ACTA, succeeds **James Hankla** who resigned to take the Harbor Commission appointment.

The Board of Harbor Commissioners has named Commission President John Hancock and port Executive Director Richard Steinke as representatives to the Intermodal Container Transfer Facility Joint Powers Authority.

The Joint Powers Authority, a partnership of the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, controls the ICTF rail yard west of the Long Beach border.

Rev. James Brougher, "sky pilot" for the local Propeller Club for six decades, has died. He was 101.

Brougher had regularly attended Propeller Club meetings until two years ago, sharing his words of wisdom and humor.

Condolence cards may be sent to the Brougher family at the First Baptist Church of Glendale, 309 N. Louise Street, Glendale, CA 91206

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