

CLOSE WINDOW



**May 2004**

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

**A surge in imports and exports sent the number of loaded cargo containers to a record high of 330,323 twenty-foot equivalent container units in March at the Port of Long Beach.**

The total number of containers, including empties, jumped to 448,398 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) in March, up 25.8 percent over the same month a year ago. It was the second highest monthly total for the Port, after only the July 2002 total.

In a sign that the U.S. economy is strengthening, imports climbed to 235,500 TEUs, an increase of 31 percent over a year ago. At a time of the year when imports usually slow, the inbound total also climbed to the highest level since July 2002.

Asian economies also seem to be strong as exports rose 14.5 percent to 94,823 TEUs, the highest export total since May 2000. Empties, nearly all headed overseas to be re-filled, increased 25.7 percent to 118,075 TEUs.

**Come early! The Port of Long Beach is hosting free World Trade Week harbor cruises on Saturday, May 8, offering a close-up waterside look at one of the world's leading ports.**

More than 1,500 visitors are expected. Free time-specific tickets will be available on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 8:30 a.m. May 8. Pick up tickets at the Port's information booth next to the Pine Avenue Pier located between the Aquarium of the Pacific and Shoreline Village in downtown Long Beach.

In the past, all tickets were handed out by mid-day.

The 90-minute tours will depart every half hour beginning at 9 a.m. and continuing throughout the day until 2:30 p.m. Boats will depart from the Pine Avenue Pier. There will be validated parking at the Aquarium of the

Pacific parking garage at Shoreline Drive and Chestnut Avenue.

**Supplying shore-side electricity to ships at berth – a process called “cold ironing” – would be cost effective for certain types of vessels that call regularly in Long Beach, that use a lot of power, and that spend a lot of time in port, according to a study commissioned by the Port.**

Substituting shore-side electricity for the ship’s diesel power would significantly reduce air emissions from docked vessels, which are among the region’s major air polluters. Docked vessels typically shut off their engines but use auxiliary diesel generators to power refrigeration, lights, pumps and other functions.

**The Cold Ironing Cost Effectiveness Study found that 1,143 vessels made 2,913 calls at the Port in a one-year period from 2002-2003 – but only 41 percent of the ships made as many as six or more calls each year.**

The study looked at 12 representative ships that call at the Port. The Environ consultants concluded that shore-side electrification would be cost effective for five of the 12 vessels. The five vessels have operational characteristics that make them good candidates. The vessels included a cruise ship, refrigerator vessel, container-reefer ship, container vessel and an oil tanker.

“Cold ironing those five vessels would eliminate about 90 percent of the emissions generated by the 12 study vessels,” said the report.

The Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners has asked the Port staff to draft a plan that outlines the Port’s next steps.

**Beginning this fall, all cargo containers arriving from foreign ports will be monitored for radioactive materials before they can be taken from shipping terminals in Long Beach.**

To assure tighter security, the Board of Harbor Commissioners has approved an agreement with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to install radiation monitors at the Port’s six container terminals handling international imports.

A preliminary estimate puts the cost at \$2 million to install and build 18 monitoring portals – three at each of the six terminals – with another \$1 million needed for design, engineering and management. The project should be completed by the end of October.

**The Department of Homeland Security’s Office of Domestic Preparedness has awarded a \$1.1 million grant to the Port to design, procure and install additional security fencing and lighting.**

The fencing is planned for 11 sites, and should be completed by October.

**To make way for safety improvements planned for the Port's Back Channel, the Board of Harbor Commissioners has tentatively approved the move of Foss Maritime's tugboat operations to Berth D49 in the Inner Harbor.**

Since 1954, Foss has operated along the Back Channel at Berths D35-D-36.

The move is necessary this summer because the Port is planning to dredge the Back Channel, which passes beneath the Gerald Desmond Bridge. The dredging will widen the channel to at least 315 feet. The wider channel is needed to safely accommodate vessels traveling to and from Piers A, B and C.

**Searching for other ways to improve air quality, the Port has issued a "white paper" on the use of alternative diesel fuels, concluding that emulsified diesel – which is being used by many Long Beach terminal operators – is cost effective in significantly reducing air emissions.**

However, the staff study says the most effective use of emulsified diesel (a blend of diesel fuel and water) is in well-maintained terminal equipment equipped with diesel oxidation catalysts.

The study characterized ultra-low sulfur diesel as an interim strategy for immediate, but modest emission reductions in a variety of vehicles.

Biodiesel, the so-called "French fry" fuel made from vegetable oil and waste grease, achieved modest reductions of particulate emissions but increased emissions of nitrogen oxides, a component of smog.

**The Board of Harbor Commissioners has awarded an \$892,900 contract to Marina Landscape of Anaheim for landscape and related work along Pico Avenue between 9th Street and Harbor Plaza Drive.**

The project is the fifth and final in a series since 1998 aimed at improving the appearance of streets and public rights-of-way throughout the Port. This last project should be completed by mid-November.

**The Port of Long Beach's new 2003 Annual Report and Facilities Guide is hot off the press.**

The 41-page publication is filled with colorful photographs, updates on Port activities, statistics on trade, maps, phone numbers and a guide to the shipping terminals in Long Beach.

For a copy, come to the lobby of the Port Administration Building, 925 Harbor Plaza; or call the Communications Division at (562) 590-4121.

**Targeting the booming trade with China, Hyundai Merchant Marine is launching a new transpacific service between China and U.S. West Coast with a fleet of five 2,800-TEU vessels.**

Hyundai's Pacific China Express service will call in China at Xingang, Ningbo and Shanghai and then head to Busan (South Korea), Long Beach and Oakland before returning to Busan and China. The transit time from Xingang to Long Beach is 17 days.

**Also because of the growing trade with China, Hanjin Shipping has re-shuffled its China American Express (CAX) service, and launched two new services, China to the U.S. West Coast (CUX) and China to Long Beach (CLX).**

The CAX service now calls Shanghai, Busan (South Korea) and Long Beach with faster vessels that reduce transit to 11 days from 14 days. The CUX service calls in China in Qingdao, Shanghai and Ningbo, and then Long Beach, Oakland, Gwangyang (South Korea), and back to Qingdao. The transit time from Ningbo to Long Beach will be 13 days, down from the previous 16 days.

Hanjin's CLX service, with China Ocean Shipping Co., is a direct service between Shanghai and Long Beach, with a 12-day transit time.

**Looking to ease regional traffic congestion, the transportation industry is exploring proposals for a privately imposed fee on shippers who pick up cargo during daytime hours at the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles.**

Both the Waterfront Coalition, a group of supply chain transportation companies, and the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association, a group of shipping lines and terminal operators, are studying day-user fees to underwrite the cost of opening off-hour truck gates at the ports. Currently less than 15 percent of the ports' cargo is moved during the off-hours.

Once a plan is drafted, the West Coast Marine Terminal Operators Discussion Agreement, which has legal standing to negotiate rates, would take the proposal to the Federal Maritime Commission for approval.

**The Propeller Club's annual golf tournament will be held May 10 at the Candlewood Country Club in Whittier. For information, call (818) 951-2842.**

**Hanjin Shipping will be honored with an international achievement award at the International Business Association's World Trade Week luncheon May 14 at the Long Beach Hilton. For information, call (562) 432-8128.**

**The Foreign Trade Association's World Trade Week luncheon will be held May 18 at the Wilshire Grand Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. For information, call (323) 730-1011.**

**Federal Maritime Commission Chairman Steven Blust will be the speaker for the Harbor Association of Industry and Commerce's World Trade Week luncheon May 19 at the Hyatt Regency Long Beach. For information, call (818) 951-6088.**

**The Harbor Transportation Club is hosting a golf tournament May 28 at the California Country Club in Whittier. For information, call (562) 434-7393.**

**Get your appetites ready. The annual ILWU/Propeller Club Seafood Feast is set for 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. June 9 at the Port of Los Angeles' Berth 54 Warehouse in San Pedro.**

Sponsors include the Port of Long Beach. Proceeds support the ILWU/Propeller Club Memorial Scholarship Fund for harbor-area high school students.

Tickets are \$35 each and can be purchased in advance at any ILWU office or by calling the Propeller Club at (818) 951-2842.

## **PORT PEOPLE . . .**

**Extending its support for trade-related education, the Port has awarded scholarships to students at Cal State Long Beach and Long Beach City College.**

The Port is presenting \$8,000 in scholarships to five international business students at Cal State: **Leroy Alveranga, Duy Bui, Sheri Hernandez, Catherine Ngo and Angelica Torres.**

**Woodrow Wilson** Memorial Scholarships – named after the former Port security director – worth a total of \$5,000 are going to six international business students at City College: **Erica Dawson-Bey, John H. Fawcett, Jesse J. Gutierrez, Petro R. Kostiv, Michelle G. Kyle, and Annette T. Tinsley.**

Another \$2,000 in scholarships is going to students in City College's School of Trade and Industrial Technologies: **Ricky A. Liberty, John Hays, Dinna My and Frank Garcia.**

For the first time, the Port awarded scholarships to students in the Master of Arts in Global Logistics program at the Center for International Trade and Transportation at Cal State Long Beach. The Port is presenting \$5,000 scholarships to **Tana Norodom, Marco Espinosa and Denise Jeong.**

Since 1993, the Port has awarded \$120,000 in scholarships to 121 students.

**Dimitar "Mitch" Poryazov has joined the Port's Trade and Maritime Services Division as assistant chief wharfinger succeeding Yvonne Allen who was promoted to chief wharfinger.**

Poryazov, a native of Bulgaria, has more than 10 years of experience in the maritime industry including global logistics, vessel chartering, and ship husbandry. He came to the Port from Oakley Inc., where he was import/export coordinator.

**Chief Port Security Officer Octavius Covington has been named to serve on the Global Safety and Security Advisory Board, which is helping with academy programs at Banning High School.**

**After 36 years with the Port, most recently as the director of the Trade and Maritime Services Division, Wilma Powell has retired.**

Over the years, she worked in positions for seven of the 10 divisions of the Long Beach Harbor Department, including chief wharfinger before being named five years ago to head the Trade and Maritime Services Division.

### **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@yahoogroups.com](mailto:polb-subscribe@yahoogroups.com),**

**or go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/polb/>**

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