



# News Release

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## **Top Shipping Lines Honored for Environmental Leadership Port Commissioners Present Awards to Leading 'Green Flag' Vessel Operators**

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Fifteen major shipping lines that led a 620-ton reduction in air pollution by participating in the Port of Long Beach's Green Flag air quality program were honored by the Board of Harbor Commissioners in a special ceremony Monday, March 24, 2008 at the Aquarium of the Pacific.

The companies honored Monday were those that achieved the highest rates of compliance with the program and the most frequent vessel calls in 2007, among 146 companies that earned Green Flags. The Green Flag program, which rewards ships and vessel operators for voluntarily slowing ship speeds in the harbor to reduce air pollution, achieved its highest rates of compliance ever in 2007, at nearly 90 percent. In February 2008 the compliance rate climbed even higher, to nearly 95 percent.

"These Green Flag awards recognize our most responsible corporate partners," said Harbor Commission President Mario Cordero. "These companies -- the best of the best -- have consistently delivered on our environmental challenges, resulting in improved air quality for the local community."

Under the Green Flag program, the Port offers discounted dockage fees and environmental awards to vessel operators who achieve compliance rates of 90 percent or better and Green Flags to individual ships that have 100 percent compliance with the program for a year.

In 2007 more than 60 percent of all individual ships -- 600 vessels in total -- were 100 percent compliant and will be given Green Flags to fly on their masts. More than 60 percent of vessel operators, 146 in total, were 90 percent compliant, qualifying for discounted rates and Green Flags. The slower ship speeds resulted in a 620-ton reduction in air pollution during 2007.

The companies honored Monday were those that improved air quality the most, with 90 percent or better compliance and at least 68 trips in and out of the Port during 2007.

The "Green Flag Top 15" are:

- Alaska Tanker, which achieved 100 percent compliance on 125 vessel trips in and out of the Port.
- BP Shipping, with 91.4 percent compliance on 70 vessel trips.
- Carnival Corp., at 98 percent compliance on 310 vessel trips.
- China Shipping Container Lines, at 97.5 percent compliance on 164 vessel trips.
- CMA CGM, with 100 percent compliance on 68 vessel trips.
- China Ocean Shipping Co. (COSCO), with 99.2 percent compliance rate on 255 vessel trips.
- Hanjin Shipping, at 95.6 percent compliance rate on 391 vessel trips.
- Hyundai Merchant Marine, with 100 percent compliance on 104 vessel trips.
- "K" Line, at 99.7 percent compliance on 344 vessel trips.
- Mediterranean Shipping Co. (MSC), with a 93.6 percent compliance rate on 236 vessel trips.
- NYK (Nippon Yusen Kaisha), with 94.4 percent compliance on 470 vessel trips.
- OOCL (Orient Overseas Container Line), with 100 percent compliance on 109 vessel trips.
- Wallenius Wilhelmsen, at 90 percent compliance on 70 vessel trips.
- Wan Hai Lines, with 90 percent compliance on 90 vessel trips.
- Zim Integrated Shipping, with 97 percent compliance on 100 vessel trips.

The Green Flag incentive program was started in 2005 to boost compliance with the voluntary vessel speed reduction program. In 2006, the compliance rate was 82 percent and increased to 89 percent in 2007.