



Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

August 9, 2005

Fleet Down Two Compared to a Year Ago

58 U.S.-Flag Lakers in Service on August 1

Cleveland--The U.S.-Flag Great Lakes fleet had 58 of its 63 vessels in service on August 1, a decrease of two hulls compared to a year ago, and a drop of one vessel compared to the month's 5-year average.

While the total number of dry-bulk carriers in service is unchanged from a year ago, the vessel mix is different. The self-unloader *Joseph H. Frantz*, active a year ago, is being scrapped in Canada. The self-unloader *David Z. Norton*, in service last August 1, currently is undergoing repairs. However, two vessels that were idle a year ago, the *Maumee* and the *Courtney Burton*, are underway again.

The reduction in the cement fleet compared to a year ago reflects the lay-up of the barge *St. Marys Conquest*. The tanker total is down by one compared to last August 1 because the *Gemini* was sold to a Canadian operator earlier this year.

Vessel Utilization Rates: U.S.-Flag Great Lakes Fleet **August 1, 2000-2005 and 5-Year Average**

Year	Dry-Bulk Carriers	Cement Carriers	Tankers	Total
2000	51	6	6	63
2001	46	6	6	58
2002	48	5	5	58
2003	43	5	6	54
2004	48	6	6	60
2005	48	5	5	58
Average 2000-2004	47	6	6	59

Lake Carriers' Association represents 12 American corporations that operate 55 U.S.-Flag vessels on the Great Lakes. These vessels carry the raw materials that drive the nation's economy: Iron ore and fluxstone for the steel industry, limestone and cement for the construction industry, coal for power generation.... Collectively, these vessels transport as much as 125 million tons of cargo a year.

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The Association Representing Operators of U.S.-Flag Vessels on the Great Lakes

AMERICAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY • CENTRAL MARINE LOGISTICS, INC. • GRAND RIVER NAVIGATION COMPANY, INC.
GREAT LAKES FLEET, INC. / KEY LAKES, INC. • HMC SHIP MANAGEMENT LTD. • INLAND LAKES MANAGEMENT, INC.
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