



The Greatest Ships on the Great Lakes

Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

October 29, 2004

September Another Busy Month For Great Lakes Iron Ore Trade

CLEVELAND--Shipments of iron ore on the Great Lakes rose 13.2 percent in September compared to a year ago. The 6,164,956 net tons (5,504,433 gross tons) floated in September also represent a slight increase compared to the month's 5-year average.

To meet the increased demand for iron ore (and limestone), LCA members had 48 self-unloaders in service as the month began, an increase of 5 hulls compared to a year ago. The self-unloader *Buckeye* was activated at month's end.

For the year, the Lakes iron ore trade stands at 44 million net tons (39.3 million gross tons), an increase of 16 percent compared to the same point in 2003 and 2.8 percent better than the 5-year average for the timeframe.

Lake Carriers' Association represents 15 American corporations that operate 57 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. For more information, visit LCA's Web site - www.lcaships.com - or contact Glen G. Nekvasil, Vice President - Corporate Communications:

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

AMERICAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY • CENTRAL MARINE LOGISTICS, INC. • CLEVELAND TANKERS SHIP MANAGEMENT INC.

GRAND RIVER NAVIGATION COMPANY, INC. • GREAT LAKES ASSOCIATES, INC. • GREAT LAKES FLEET, INC. / KEY LAKES, INC. • HMC SHIP MANAGEMENT LTD.

INLAND LAKES MANAGEMENT, INC • THE INTERLAKE STEAMSHIP COMPANY • ISG BURNS HARBOR, LLC • OGLEBAY NORTON MARINE SERVICES COMPANY

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