



# Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

May 3, 2005

*The Greatest Ships on the Great Lakes*

## Up One Hull From A Year Ago

### 57 U.S.-Flag Lakers In Service on May 1

Cleveland---U.S.-Flag Great Lakes fleets had 57 vessels in service on May 1, an increase of one hull compared to a year ago, but a decrease of one vessel compared to the month's 5-year average. The active fleet grew to 58 with the sailing of the *Courtney Burton* on May 2.

As of today, four U.S.-Flag Lakers have yet to be activated since the dry-bulk trades resumed in March.

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

Year	Dry-Bulk Carriers	Cement Carriers	Tankers	Total
2000	49	6	7	62
2001	48	5	3	56
2002	43	4	5	52
2003	45	5	6	56
2004	46	5	5	56
2005	48	4	5	57
<b>Average: 2000-2004</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>58</b>

Lake Carriers' Association represents 13 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.

For more information, visit LCA's Web site - [www.lcaships.com](http://www.lcaships.com) - or contact Glen G. Nekvasil, Vice President - Corporate Communications:

Telephone: (216) 861-0592

Fax: (216) 241-8262

E-Mail: [ggn@lcaships.com](mailto:ggn@lcaships.com).

-30-

#### ***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.  
THE INTERLAKE STEAMSHIP COMPANY • ISG BURNS HARBOR, LLC • OGLEBAY NORTON MARINE SERVICES COMPANY  
PERE MARQUETTE SHIPPING COMPANY • SOO MARINE SUPPLY INC. • UPPER LAKES TOWING COMPANY, INC. • VANENKEVORT TUG & BARGE, INC.