



# Lake Carriers' Association

## For Immediate Release

January 7, 2011

### Lakes Coal Trade Finishes Strong; Tops Recession-Impacted 2009 by 7 Percent

CLEVELAND—Coal shipments on the Great Lakes totaled 2,966,286 net tons in December, an increase of 27 percent compared to a year ago. However, loadings remained 18 percent below December's 5-year average.

For the year, the Great Lakes coal trade totaled 32 million tons, an increase of 7 percent compared to 2009. Loadings at Lake Superior ports were virtually unchanged from 2009. Shipments from Chicago increased 18 percent. The largest increase collectively came at Ohio's Lake Erie loading ports of Toledo, Sandusky and Ashtabula: 20.3 percent.

Despite the improvement over 2009, the Lakes coal trade still has yet to fully rebound to previous levels. 2010 loadings were more than 21 percent below the 5-year average.

Lake Carriers' Association represents 18 American companies that operate 55 U.S.-flag vessels on the Great Lakes and 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 can transport more than 115 million tons of cargo per year when high water offsets lack of adequate dredging. More information is available at [www.lcaships.com](http://www.lcaships.com).

Source: Lake Carriers' Association.

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Information based on data from knowledgeable sources. However, accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Lake Carriers' Association assumes no legal responsibility for the outcome of decisions or commitments made on the basis of this information. This report represents the views of Lake Carriers' Association and may not necessarily represent the views of its individual members.

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

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