



The Greatest Ships on the Great Lakes

Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

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Still Ahead Of Previous Years

Great Lakes Coal Trade Dips In May

Cleveland---Shipments of coal on the Great Lakes totaled 4.4 million net tons in May, a decrease of 5.1 percent compared to a year ago. The trade fared slightly better when compared to the month's 5-year average; the decrease is 3.3 percent. Only one loading port, Sandusky, Ohio, outperformed itself in comparison to a year ago. However, Superior, Wisconsin and Chicago both topped their 5-year averages for May.

For the year, the Lakes coal trade stands at 11.4 million net tons, an increase of 2.5 percent compared to the same point in 2004, and 6.5 percent better than the 5-year average for the January-May timeframe. The gains have come mostly at ports that ship western, low sulfur coal. Superior, Wisconsin is more than 900,000 net tons ahead of its 5-year average. Chicago has bettered its 5-year average by almost 600,000 net tons.

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.

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

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