



Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

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Lakes Coal Dock Sets New Record in August

CLEVELAND—Superior Midwest Energy Terminal (SMET) in Superior, Wisconsin, set a new record for the most coal ever shipped from a single dock in a month on the Great Lakes in August. The facility loaded 2,665,538 net tons of coal. The previous record, also held by SMET, was 2,548,173 tons loaded in July of 2002.

SMET operated virtually around the clock in August, loading 54 vessels.

The new record still falls short of what the dock could ship if the Great Lakes Navigation System was dredged to project depths. Even the largest cargo loaded this August – 67,799 tons – came up well short of the all-time top load from the facility: 71,369 tons.

Shipments from all Great Lakes coal docks in August totaled 4.1 million tons, a decrease of nearly 11 percent compared to a year ago, and some 14 percent off the month's 5-year average. However, a major Lake Erie loading dock was idled most of the month by a silo fire on August 5.

For the year, the Great Lakes coal trade stands at 23.9 million tons, a decrease of about 1 percent compared to a year ago. The trade is 3 percent off the 5-year average for the January-August timeframe.

Lake Carriers' Association represents 16 American corporations that operate 63 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 can transport more than 115 million tons of cargo a year when high water levels offset the lack of adequate dredging of Great Lakes ports and waterways. More information is available at 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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GRAND RIVER NAVIGATION COMPANY, INC. • GREAT LAKES FLEET / KEY LAKES, INC. • INLAND LAKES MANAGEMENT, INC. • THE INTERLAKE STEAMSHIP COMPANY
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