



# Lake Carriers' Association

## For Immediate Release

January 9, 2006

### Another Record Year For Superior Midwest Energy Terminal **Great Lakes Coal Trade Up 7 Percent In 2005**

Cleveland---Shipments of coal on the Great Lakes totaled 42.7 million tons in 2005, an increase of 7 percent compared to 2004. The Lakes coal trade also outperformed its 5-year average by nearly 3 percent.

Superior Midwest Energy Terminal (SMET) in Superior, Wisconsin shipped a record 20.5 million tons of western, low-sulfur coal in 2005. The dock's previous peak, 18.3 million tons, was set in 2004, but in fact, with demand for western coal growing steadily, almost every year represents a new plateau for SMET.

The KCBX terminal in Chicago, another dock shipping low sulfur coal, saw its loadings increase by 6 percent over 2004. More importantly, however, the 4.2 million tons loaded at KCBX in 2005 were nearly double the facility's 5-year average.

Shipments of eastern coal from Lake Erie terminals rose by 750,000 tons compared to 2004, but remained well below their 5-year average. With demand for Lakes coal more or less stable, increases in shipments of western coal have reduced loadings of eastern coal.

Lake Carriers' Association represents 12 American corporations that operate 54 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 aggregate 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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