



# Lake Carriers' Association

## For Immediate Release

February 12, 2010

### **U.S.-Flag Lakers Start 2010 on Strong Note; January Cargos Up More Than 150 Percent**

CLEVELAND—A rebounding steel industry has helped the U.S.-Flag Great Lakes fleet get off to a positive start in 2010. Cargo moved in U.S.-Flag lakers in January totaled 2.4 million tons, an increase of 156 percent compared to a year ago.

The bulk of those cargoes was iron ore for steel production. Shipments topped 1.8 million tons, an increase of 196 percent compared to the corresponding period last year. There has been a steady increase in operating rates at the nation's steel mills, and most of the iron ore consumed at domestic mills is shipped on the Great Lakes.

Coal cargoes also registered a significant increase. The 495,000 tons carried in January represent an increase of 65 percent.

The fleet is now in winter lay-up. The final dry-bulk cargo, 39,324 tons of iron ore, was delivered on February 1.

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 a 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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