



Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

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Veteran Laker Activated To Meet Demand For Iron Ore

U.S.-Flag Lakes Fleet Busy Keeping Steel Mills Fed In July

Cleveland—U.S.-Flag Great Lakes fleets moved 12.3 million net tons of dry-bulk cargo on the “Inland Seas” in July, an increase of 3.4 percent compared to a year ago. The July float was 7 percent ahead of the month’s 5-year average.

Shipments of iron ore for Great Lakes basin steel mills recorded the strongest gains in July. Shipments rose 16 percent compared to a year ago to a total of 5.5 million net tons. The gain was only slightly less compared to the month’s 5-year average.

To meet brisk demand for iron ore, the veteran U.S.-Flag Laker *Edward L. Ryerson* set sail on July 22. The vessel, christened in 1960, had been idle since the end of 1998, primarily because it is not a self-unloader. However, the steel mills in Indiana Harbor still have ore bridges that can unload straight-deck vessels, so the *Ryerson* will be in service for the remainder of this year.



The steamship Edward L. Ryerson loading taconite pellets at Superior, Wisconsin. Photo by Glen Blaszkiewicz.

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. More information is available at www.lcaship.com.

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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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