



Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

September 15, 2011

U.S.-Flag Lakers' Cargo Up Nearly 4 Percent in August

CLEVELAND—U.S.-flag Great Lakes freighters (“lakers”) carried 10.4 million tons of dry-bulk cargo in August, a decrease of 6.6 percent compared to July, but an increase of 3.7 percent compared to a year ago. The August “float” was also largely in line with the month’s 5-year average.

Iron ore cargos for the steel industry increased 8 percent compared to a year ago. Limestone cargos for construction, steel production, and environmental uses jumped almost 21 percent, but coal for power generation and steel production slumped again, this time by more than 16 percent.

Through August U.S.-flag cargos stand at 55.1 million tons, an increase of 3.2 percent compared to the same point in 2010. Iron ore has increased 9.4 percent, but coal is down by 7.5 percent. Limestone cargos have now inched passed last year.

Compared to the 5-year average for the first eight months of the year, U.S.-flag cargos are down 1.9 percent.

Lake Carriers' Association represents 17 American companies that operate 55 U.S.-flag vessels on the Great Lakes that carry the raw materials that drive the nation’s economy: iron ore and fluxstone for the steel industry, aggregate and cement for the construction industry, coal for power generation.... Collectively, these vessels can transport more than 115 million tons of cargo per year when high water offsets lack of adequate dredging. More information is available at www.lcaships.com. Contact: Glen G. Nekvasil, Vice President (440-333-9996).

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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.

20325 Center Ridge Rd., Ste. 720 ♦ Rocky River, Ohio 44116-3572 ♦ Fax: 440-333-9993 ♦ www.lcaships.com

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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