



# Lake Carriers' Association

## For Immediate Release

November 20, 2006

### Iron Ore and Coal Totals Drop

## **U.S.-Flag Lakes Cargos Down in October**

Cleveland—U.S.-Flag Great Lakes fleets moved 11.1 million net tons of dry-bulk cargo on the Great Lakes in October, a decrease of 3.4 percent compared to a year ago. The decrease was slightly less – 2.2 percent - when compared to the fleet's 5-year average for October.

With steel production slowing, the iron ore trade skipped a beat in October. Shipments in U.S.-Flag Lakers slipped 4.1 percent compared to a year ago, but were only marginally behind the 5-year average.

Ample stockpiles of coal at power plants again slowed loadings of that commodity. Shipments in U.S-Flag hulls totaled 2.7 million net tons in October, a decrease of nearly 9 percent from a year ago, but a slight increase over the 5-year average for the month.

The limestone total was almost an exact duplicate of a year ago, but fell short of the 5-year average by approximately 250,000 net tons.

For the year, U.S.-Flag cargo carriage stands 89.1 million net tons, a slight increase compared to the same point in 2005. However, the trade remains well ahead – nearly 6 percent – of the 5-year average for the January-October timeframe.

Lake Carriers' Association represents 18 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 transport as much as 125 million tons of cargo a year when high water levels offset lack of adequate dredging. More information is available at [www.lcaship.com](http://www.lcaship.com).

Source: Lake Carriers' Association

Contact: Glen G. Nekvasil – Vice President – Corporate Communications (216-861-0592)

-30-

*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.*

---

Suite 915 • 614 West Superior Avenue • Cleveland, Ohio 44113-1383 • Fax: 216-241-8262 • Web site: [www.lcaships.com](http://www.lcaships.com)

---

### ***The Association Representing Operators of U.S.-Flag Vessels on the Great Lakes***

AMERICAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY • ARMSTRONG STEAMSHIP COMPANY • BELL STEAMSHIP COMPANY • CENTRAL MARINE LOGISTICS, INC.  
GLF GREAT LAKES FLEET CORP. • GRAND RIVER NAVIGATION COMPANY, INC. • GREAT LAKES FLEET, INC. / KEY LAKES, INC. • HMC SHIP MANAGEMENT LTD.  
INLAND LAKES MANAGEMENT, INC. • INTEGRATED SHIPPING, LLC • THE INTERLAKE STEAMSHIP COMPANY • LAKE MICHIGAN CARFERRY SERVICE, INC.  
LAKES SHIPPING COMPANY, INC. • PERE MARQUETTE SHIPPING COMPANY • SOO MARINE SUPPLY, INC. • UPPER LAKES TOWING COMPANY, INC.  
VANENKEVORT TUG & BARGE, INC. • WISCONSIN & MICHIGAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY