



# Lake Carriers' Association

## For Immediate Release

December 17, 2009

### U.S.-Flag Lakes Float Tops 9 Million Tons For The First Time This Year in November

CLEVELAND—The U.S.-Flag Great Lakes fleet hauled more than 9 million net tons of dry-bulk cargo in November. That's the first month this year that cargos totaled more than 9 million tons in a single month.

The November float is a small increase over the previous month – 3 percent – but significantly higher than earlier this year. In May, for example, U.S.-Flag cargos totaled only 7.1 million tons.

The 3.6 million tons of iron ore hauled in November are the fleet's best total for that commodity so far this year and reflect rising demand for steel. Limestone recorded its second-best month of the year. However, the last stone cargo of the year was loaded on December 16, an early close for that trade.

Coal loadings were down 16 percent compared to a year ago, primarily because of slowdown in shipments of western coal out of Superior, Wisconsin.

Through November, U.S.-Flag carriage stands at 60,352,716 tons, a decrease of approximately 36.6 percent compared to a year ago. The U.S.-Flag float is 38.4 percent off the 5-year average for the January-November timeframe.

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.

Contact: Glen G. Nekvasil, Vice President - Corporate Communications (440-333-9996).

-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 720 • 20325 Center Ridge Rd. • Rocky River, Ohio 44116-3572 • Fax: 440-333-9993 •  
[www.lcaships.com](http://www.lcaships.com)

---

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

AMERICAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY • ANDRIE, INC. • ARMSTRONG STEAMSHIP COMPANY • BELL STEAMSHIP COMPANY • CENTRAL MARINE LOGISTICS, INC.  
GRAND RIVER NAVIGATION COMPANY, INC. • GREAT LAKES FLEET / KEY LAKES, INC. • INLAND LAKES MANAGEMENT, INC. • THE INTERLAKE STEAMSHIP COMPANY  
KK INTEGRATED LOGISTICS • LAKE MICHIGAN CARFERRY SERVICE, INC. • LAKES SHIPPING COMPANY, INC. • PERE MARQUETTE SHIPPING COMPANY  
PORT CITY MARINE SERVICES • PORT CITY STEAMSHIP COMPANY • SOO MARINE SUPPLY, INC. • UPPER LAKES TOWING COMPANY, INC. • VANENKVOORT TUG & BARGE, INC.