2006 U.S.-FLAG DRY-BULK CARGO CARRIAGE TO / FROM CANADA (CROSS-LAKES TRADE)

U.S.-Flag participation in the Cross-Lakes trade decreased in 2006 for the first time in three years. Shipments totaled 8.3 million net tons, a decrease of 11 percent compared to 2006. The greatest decrease came in coal, but as noted elsewhere, a Canadian customer changed its source for coal, and in doing so, the tonnage was carried by a Canadian-Flag operator(s).

However, a comparison with the 5-year average confirms the dramatic growth of U.S.-Flag participation in U.S./Canada trade. Loadings in U.S. bottoms in 2006 bettered the 5-year average by nearly 30 percent. Even so, Canadian-Flag vessels still account for more than 80 percent of all Cross-Lakes shipments.

U.S.-FLAG CARGO CARRIAGE CROSS-LAKES TRADE CALENDAR YEARS 2001-2006 AND 5-YEAR AVERAGE (net tons)

COMMODITY	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	AVERAGE 2001-2005
Iron Ore	1,519,304	1,362,117	1,541,904	1,835,376	2,561,020	2,014,342	1,763,944
Coal	2,632,826	2,752,545	3,969,922	3,686,464	4,787,481	3,968,691	3,565,848
Limestone	124,742	214,944	560,905	541,947	1,487,436	1,875,132	585,995
Cement	505,917	334,112	367,889	419,000	324,267	265,323	390,237
Sand	0	0	0	0	74,183	63,456	74,183
Salt	76,599	0	93,180	0	28,539	64,770	39,664
Grain	26,000	0	26,159	50,578	43,416	27,282	29,231
TOTAL	4,885,388	4,663,718	6,559,959	6,533,365	9,306,342	8,281,002	6,449,102