



Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

September 11, 2008

August U.S.-Flag Float Hints of Great Lakes Shipping After Dredging Crisis is Solved

Cleveland — August marked the second month in a row that the U.S.-Flag Great Lakes fleet moved more than 12 million net tons of cargo on the Great Lakes. Rising water levels even allowed for two iron ore cargos to top 68,000 tons. Those are the heaviest loads carried in some time and represent 95 percent of the vessel's rated carrying capacity.

While higher water levels allowed some vessels to at least be within striking distance of full loads, the industry continues to sacrifice significant capacity to the dredging crisis. Even those 68,000-ton cargos meant roughly 3,000 tons of iron ore were left at the loading dock. Furthermore, Great Lakes water levels normally begin to drop in the fall, so even more capacity will be negated in the coming months due to lack of adequate dredging.

For the year, U.S.-Flag carriage stands at 63.1 million tons, a slight increase (380,000 tons) compared to a year ago, but also a slight decrease from the 5-year average for the January-August timeframe.

Lake Carriers' Association represents 16 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 can transport more than 115 million tons of cargo a year when high water levels offset lack of adequate dredging. More information is available at www.lcaship.com.

Source: Lake Carriers' Association.

Contact: Glen G. Nekvasil – Vice President – Corporate Communications (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.

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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