



# Lake Carriers' Association

## For Immediate Release

May 8, 2012

### Fast Start for Lakes Limestone; Up 21 Percent in April

CLEVELAND – Shipments of limestone on the Great Lakes totaled 2.6 million tons in April, an increase of 21 percent compared to a year ago and 5.1 percent better than the month's 5-year average. The strongest gains came at U.S. ports. Loadings rose by almost 370,000 tons (again 21 percent). Shipments from Canadian quarries increased by nearly 80,000 tons, or 20.5 percent.

Year-to-date the Lakes limestone trade stands at 2,753,400 tons, an increase of 26.5 percent compared to a year ago and 6.5 percent ahead of the 5-year average for the January-April timeframe.

#### **GREAT LAKES LIMESTONE TRADE: APRIL 2007-2012 AND 5-YEAR AVERAGE** (net tons)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Average 2007-2011
U.S. Ports	2,485,315	2,347,463	1,225,179	2,025,885	1,743,034	2,111,327	1,965,375
Canadian Ports	609,875	656,100	326,311	439,407	383,488	462,006	483,036
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,095,190</b>	<b>3,005,571</b>	<b>1,553,499</b>	<b>2,465,294</b>	<b>2,126,522</b>	<b>2,573,333</b>	<b>2,448,411</b>

#### **GREAT LAKES LIMESTONE TRADE: YEAR-TO-DATE 2007-2012 AND 5-YEAR AVERAGE**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Average 2007-2011
U.S. Ports	2,835,315	2,506,716	1,241,551	2,042,805	1,793,218	2,291,394	2,083,921
Canadian Ports	704,875	656,100	326,311	439,407	383,488	462,006	502,036
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,540,190</b>	<b>3,164,824</b>	<b>1,569,871</b>	<b>2,482,212</b>	<b>2,176,706</b>	<b>2,753,400</b>	<b>2,585,957</b>

U.S. ports: Calcite, MI, Cedarville, MI, Drummond Island, MI, Kellys Island, OH, Marblehead, OH, Port Inland, MI and Presque Isle, MI. Kellys Island ceased shipping in fall 2009. Canadian ports: Bruce Mines, Manitoulin Island, Port Colborne, and Smelter Bay (all Ontario).

Lake Carriers' Association represents 17 American companies that operate 57 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 per year. The cargos these vessels carry generate and sustain more than 103,000 jobs in the United States and have an economic impact of more than \$20 billion.

More information is available at [www.lcaships.com](http://www.lcaships.com). Contact: Glen G. Nekvasil, Vice President. Telephone: (440) 333-9996.

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Information based on data sources believed to be reliable. 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.

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 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. • VANENKEVORT TUG & BARGE, INC.