



Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

May 18, 2011

U.S.-Flag Lakers' Cargo Up 8 Percent in April

CLEVELAND—U.S.-flag Great Lakes freighters (“lakers”) carried 8.2 million tons of dry-bulk cargo in April, an increase of 8 percent compared to a year ago. However, that total was slightly below April’s 5-year average.

Iron ore cargos for the steel industry increased 10.6 percent compared to a year ago. Coal for power generation and steel production rose 13.1 percent. Aggregate and fluxstone for the construction and steel industries bettered last April by one boatload.

Through April U.S.-flag cargos stand at 14.1 million tons, an increase of 11.5 percent compared to the same point in 2010. Iron ore and coal have registered significant increases over a year ago, but limestone’s improvement is very modest.

The end-of-April total is also 2.2 percent ahead of the 5-year average for the January-April timeframe.

Lake Carriers’ Association represents 17 American companies that operate 55 U.S.-flag vessels on the Great Lakes that carry the raw materials that drive the nation’s economy: iron ore and fluxstone for the steel industry, aggregate and cement for the construction industry, coal for power generation.... Collectively, these vessels can transport more than 115 million tons of cargo per year when high water offsets lack of adequate dredging. More information is available at www.lcaships.com. Contact: Glen G. Nekvasil, Vice President (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.

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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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