



Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

June 8, 2012

U.S.-Flag Lakes Float Up 3.1 Percent in May

CLEVELAND—U.S.-flag Great Lakes freighters (“lakers”) carried 9.8 million tons of dry-bulk cargo in May, an increase of 19 percent over April, and 3.1 percent better than a year ago. The May float was, however, slightly below the month’s 5-year average.

Iron ore cargos for the steel industry increased 5.2 percent compared to a year ago. Aggregate and fluxstone for construction and steelmaking rose 12.4 percent. Coal for power generation and steel production dipped 8.7 percent.

Through May U.S.-flag cargos stand at 24.4 million tons, an increase of 3.4 percent compared to the same point in 2011, and 5.7 percent ahead of the 5-year average for the first five months of the year. Iron ore and limestone have registered noticeable increases over a year ago, but coal has decreased by 825,000 tons.

Lake Carriers' Association represents 17 American companies that operate 57 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, as well as salt, sand and grain. Collectively, these vessels can transport more than 115 million tons of cargo per year. 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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