



Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

July 9, 2014

Lakes Iron Ore Trade Down 17 Percent at Mid-Year

CLEVELAND — Iron ore shipments on the Great Lakes total 19.2 million tons through the end of June, a 17 percent decrease from a year ago and the trade's long-term average. Higher water levels have not been able to offset the interminable delays suffered during the winter of 2013/2014.

Shipments from U.S. ports through the second quarter stand at 16.8 million tons, a decrease of nearly 19 percent compared to a year ago. While several cargos in June topped 69,000 tons, even the best loads still represented a shortfall from the vessel's rated capacity, and the month's top load – 69,576 tons – was still 2,724 tons shy of the record through the Soo Locks: 72,300 tons.

Iron ore shipments from Canadian ports in the Seaway total 2.4 million tons through June, a slight decrease compared to a year ago. The lack of shipments from Pointe Noire reflects the closure of Wabush Mines in eastern Canada.

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, 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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