



# Lake Carriers' Association

## For Immediate Release

July 15, 2014

### U.S.-Flag Lakers' Cargo Total Trails 2013 by 17% at Mid Year

CLEVELAND — U.S.-flag cargo movement on the Great Lakes stands at 27 million tons through the end of June, a decrease of 17.4 percent compared to the same point in 2013. The brutal winter of 2013/2014 is the overriding factor behind the decrease. Vessels lost significant time due to the heavy ice formations, and then some vessels had to be removed from service to repair damage suffered in the ice.

Shipments of iron ore for the steel industry total 14 million tons at the end of the second quarter, a decrease of 21.4 percent, or 3,816,000 tons. The 3.8 million ton shortfall is more than a season's work for a 1,000-foot-long vessel.

Coal cargos stand at 5.1 million tons through June, a decrease of 9.4 percent, or 532,000 tons.

Limestone loadings total 6.2 million tons at the end of the first half of 2014, a decrease of 16.6 percent, or 1,231,000 tons. Winter's grip on the stone trade was so tight that only one limestone cargo had moved by mid-April.

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](http://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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