



Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

August 11, 2015

Lakes Limestone Trade Tops 4 Million Tons Again in July

CLEVELAND—For the second month in a row, shipments of limestone on the Great Lakes topped 4 million tons in July. This is the first time loadings have topped the 4-million-ton mark for more than one month in a shipping season since 2008.

Loadings at U.S. quarries totaled 3.5 million tons, a virtual repeat of a year ago. Shipments from Canadian quarries – 560,000 tons – also were a near carbon copy of a year ago.

Year-to-date the Lakes limestone trade stands at 14 million tons, an increase of 16 percent compared to a year ago. That increase in part reflects just how severely stone shipments were impacted by the near glacial ice that covered the Lakes into May of 2014. Ice also slowed the resumption of the stone trade this spring; several boats in the stone trade did not sail until late April, but the shipping lanes were ice free by May.

Great Lakes Limestone Shipments from U.S. and Canadian Ports: July 2010-2015 and Long-Term Average (net tons)

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Average 2010-2014
U.S. Ports	3,122,348	2,980,108	3,347,818	3,001,741	3,533,609	3,510,422	3,197,125
Canadian Ports	559,960	670,284	735,935	506,706	556,470	562,133	605,871
Total	3,682,308	3,650,392	4,083,753	3,508,447	4,090,079	4,072,555	3,802,996

Year-To-Date 2010-2015 and Long-Term Average (net tons)

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Average 2010-2014
U.S. Ports	10,953,689	10,030,268	11,594,262	11,071,163	10,340,545	11,685,126	10,797,985
Canadian Ports	2,715,661	2,293,211	2,451,747	1,759,075	1,701,735	2,279,607	2,184,286
Total	13,669,350	12,323,479	14,046,009	12,830,238	12,042,280	13,964,733	12,982,271

U.S. ports: Calcite, Cedarville, Drummond Island, Port Inland, Presque Isle (all Michigan), and Marblehead (Ohio). Canadian ports: Bruce Mines, Manitoulin Island and Smelter Bay (all Ontario).

LCA represents 16 American companies that operate 56 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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