

Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

January 19, 2016



U.S.-Flag Cargo Movement on Lakes Down 3.3 Percent in 2015

CLEVELAND – U.S.-flag Great Lakes freighters (lakers) moved 87.2 million tons of cargo in 2015, a decrease of 3.3 percent compared to 2014. The end-year tally is also the lowest since 2009 when the U.S.-flag float totaled 66.5 million tons.

Iron ore cargos tumbled 10.4 percent to 40.9 million tons, again, the lowest total since 2009.

Coal cargos totaled 17.65 million tons, a decrease of less than one percent, or 118,000 tons, which is the equivalent of roughly two cargos in a 1,000-foot-long laker.

Limestone cargos increased nearly 8 percent to 23.1 million tons, the highest total since 2008.

U.S.-flag cement cargos rose 6.3 percent to 3.45 million tons. Salt cargos were almost a carbon copy of 2014 – 1.4 million tons. Sand shipments dipped 15 percent to 320,000 tons. Grain cargos topped 350,000 tons, an increase of 37 percent.

Lake Carriers' Association represents 15 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 100 million tons of cargo per year. More information is available at www.lcaships.com.

#

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.

20325 Center Ridge Rd., Ste. 720 ♦ Rocky River, OH 44116-3572 ♦ www.lcaships.com

The Association Representing Operators of U.S.-Flag Vessels on the Great Lakes

AMERICAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY • ANDRIE INC. • ARMSTRONG STEAMSHIP COMPANY • BELL STEAMSHIP COMPANY • CENTRAL MARINE LOGISTICS, INC.
GRAND RIVER NAVIGATION COMPANY, INC. • GREAT LAKES FLEET/KEY LAKES, INC. • INLAND LAKES MANAGEMENT, INC. • THE INTERLAKE STEAMSHIP COMPANY
LAKE MICHIGAN CARFERRY SERVICE, INC. • PERE MARQUETTE SHIPPING COMPANY • PORT CITY MARINE SERVICES • PORT CITY STEAMSHIP HOLDING COMPANY INC.
SOO MARINE SUPPLY, INC. • VANENKEVORT TUG & BARGE, INC.