

Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

February 3, 2016



U.S.-Flag Cargo Movement on Lakes Down 23 Percent in January

CLEVELAND – U.S.-flag Great Lakes freighters (“lakers”) carried 2.3 million tons of dry-bulk cargo on the Great Lakes in January, a decrease of 23 percent compared to a year ago. Iron ore cargos decreased 20 percent. Coal loadings tumbled 68 percent. However, shipments of limestone rose nearly 75 percent.

As February begins, most lakers are in lay-up and undergoing maintenance and modernization, but one cement carrier and two liquid-bulk tug/barge units were in service as of February 1. LCA members will invest upwards of \$110 million in their vessels in 2016.

U.S.-Flag Dry-Bulk Carriage on the Great Lakes: January 2011-2016 and 5-Year Average
(net tons)

Commodity	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Average 2011-2015
Iron Ore							
Direct Shipments	2,638,790	3,161,812	2,469,561	1,277,149	1,907,144	1,603,693	2,290,891
Transshipments	65,618	136,544	250,979	223,149	166,377	60,627	168,533
Total - Iron Ore	2,704,408	3,298,356	2,720,540	1,500,298	2,073,521	1,664,320	2,459,425
Coal							
Lake Superior	556,781	169,730	57,538	158,845	428,167	66,158	274,212
Lake Michigan	44,986	76,870	83,129	60,713	42,423	0	61,624
Lake Erie	40,974	54,958	43,906	148,682	113,548	123,819	80,414
Total - Coal	642,741	301,558	184,573	368,240	584,138	189,977	416,250
Limestone	4,328	25,628	0	0	104,338	180,204	26,859
Cement	35,025	72,707	59,475	37,790	181,291	150,775	77,258
Salt	54,808	214,093	24,020	45,767	0	77,072	67,738
Sand	0	0	13,892	0	0	0	2,778
Grain	0	15,764	0	0	0	0	3,153
Totals	3,441,310	3,928,106	3,002,500	1,952,095	2,943,288	2,262,348	3,053,460

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.

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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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