

# Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

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## U.S.-Flag Lakes Cargos Down More Than 9 Percent in October

CLEVELAND – U.S.-flag Great Lakes freighters (lakers) moved 8.8 million tons of cargo in October, a decrease of 9.2 percent compared to a year ago, and 10.2 percent below the month's 5-year average. October was also the sixth consecutive month in which cargoes trailed the previous year.

Iron ore cargoes for the steel industry totaled 4.4 million tons in October, an increase of 5.3 percent compared to a year ago. However, coal shipments to power plants and steel mills fell to 1.3 million tons, a decrease of 43 percent. Limestone for construction projects and steel production totaled 2.6 million tons, a decrease of 6.7 percent compared to a year ago.

Year-over-year U.S.-flag carriage stands at 67.8 million tons, a decrease of 5.7 percent. Iron ore cargoes are up 4.1 percent, but coal loads have dipped 26.4 percent. Limestone shipments trail last year by 6.7 percent.

Lake Carriers' Association represents 14 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](http://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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**20325 Center Ridge Rd., Ste. 720 ♦ Rocky River, OH 44116-3572 ♦ [www.lcaships.com](http://www.lcaships.com)**

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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 • INLAND LAKES MANAGEMENT, INC. • THE INTERLAKE STEAMSHIP COMPANY  
LAKE MICHIGAN CARFERRY SERVICE, INC. • PERE MARQUETTE SHIPPING COMPANY • PORT CITY MARINE SERVICES, INC.  
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