

Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

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Great Lakes/Seaway Iron Ore Trade Up Slightly in May

CLEVELAND – Shipments of iron ore on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway totaled 6.1 million tons in May, an increase of 1.8 percent compared to a year ago. However, shipments trailed the month's 5-year average by 5 percent.

Shipments from U.S. Great Lakes ports totaled 5.7 million tons in May, an increase of 5 percent. All of those tons originated at Lake Superior ports. Escanaba, Michigan, on the north shore of Lake Michigan, shipped its last iron ore load on April 18.

Loadings at Canadian terminals in the Seaway in May totaled 390,000 tons, a decrease of nearly 30 percent.

Year-to-date the iron ore trade stands at 17 million tons, an increase of 10.2 percent compared to the same point in 2016. Year-over-year, loadings at U.S. ports total 15.4 million tons, an increase of 11.3 percent. Shipments from Canadian ports in the St. Lawrence Seaway are virtually the same as a year ago: 1,564,483 tons.

Lake Carriers' Association represents 13 American companies that operate 49 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 sand, grain and other dry-bulk cargos. 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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