



U.S Department of Transportation
Office of Public Affairs
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590
www.dot.gov/affairs/briefing.htm

News

SLSDC 05-11

Wednesday, August 24, 2011

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Department of Transportation Presents Port of Oswego With Seaway Pacesetter Award for International Tonnage Shipments

WASHINGTON -- The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC), an agency of the U.S. Department of Transportation, today presented the Robert J. Lewis Pacesetter Award to the Port of Oswego in New York State. SLSDC Administrator Terry Johnson presented the award today to Jonathan Daniels, Oswego's Port Director, in recognition of the Port's increase in international cargo during last year's navigation season.

The port recorded an international tonnage increase of 4 percent in 2010 over the 2009 shipping season, handling 183, 502 metric tons of cargo. Aluminum shipments were up 37 percent and grain cargoes of soybeans, corn, and wheat were up 33 percent. This is the tenth time the Port of Oswego has received the Pacesetter Award.

"President Obama has set a goal of doubling U.S. exports, and it is this kind of strong performance by the Port of Oswego that is going to help do this," said Administrator Johnson. "The new business through the Port shows a strengthening of the regional economy, which will translate into new employment opportunities."

"As a proud member of the St. Lawrence System, we are pleased that we were able to show an increase in international tonnage for the season," said Port Director Jonathan Daniels. "This is a testament to the dedication and work ethic of the longshoremen that work efficiently for the benefit of the customers that utilize the Port of Oswego as a critical component of their logistics chain. From aluminum to agriculture to transformers, the Port of Oswego stands poised to provide the most flexible and cost effective services for an ever expanding clientele."

The Pacesetter Award is presented annually to U.S. Great Lakes Seaway ports that register increases in international overseas cargo tonnage shipped through the Seaway during the navigation season. Originally known simply as the Pacesetter Award, the name change honors long-time Seaway trade analyst Bob Lewis who passed away in 2001.

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