



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Room 5424
(202) 366-0091



Saint Lawrence
Seaway Development
Corporation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, February 1, 2000

Contact: Mary Ann Hazel
(315) 764-3230

MASSENA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO HAVE RARE OPPORTUNITY FOR INSIDE VIEW OF EISENHOWER LOCK

In conjunction with this year's national Groundhog Job Shadow Day (February 2), 17 Massena High School juniors tomorrow morning at 9 a.m. will be hosted by the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) at the Eisenhower Lock, Massena, NY., where they will be given an up-close look at the annual winter maintenance work being performed there.

The students are all participants in the Tech Prep program that is designed to provide them with real life job skills through various means, such as "job shadowing." Students job shadow when they follow actual workers performing their daily activities at a job site over a period of several weeks. SLSDC has been a local Tech-Prep partner with Massena High School over the past three years, and during that time has provided numerous job shadowing opportunities, as well as several Seaway-related case study assignments and field trips.

SLSDC Administrator Albert S. Jacquez, who will take part in the Feb. 2 event, noted: "The Seaway Corporation is delighted to sponsor this unique Groundhog Day event at Eisenhower Lock. It will serve as an exceptional educational experience for the Massena High School's Tech Prep juniors, and provide them a rare insight into how we maintain the massive U.S. lock structures (Eisenhower and Snell Locks) in Massena that help thousands of ships transit the Seaway every year. Our agency and our parent organization, the U.S. Department of Transportation DOT), are strongly committed to advancing educational opportunities for America's youth, particularly in the transportation field, under the umbrella of DOT's Garrett A. Morgan Technology and Transportation Futures Program, which also includes the Tech Prep and Adopt-A-School programs."

Superintendent of the Massena School District Douglas Huntley, who will also be part of the Feb. 2 event, said: "The Seaway Corporation deserves a lot of credit for the

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Saint Lawrence
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 28, 2000

Contact: Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110

EIGHT U.S. GREAT LAKES SEAWAY PORTS & PORT TERMINALS EARN PACESETTER AWARDS

Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation Administrator Albert S. Jacquez today announced that three U.S. Great Lakes Seaway ports and five port terminals have earned the Corporation's eighth annual Seaway Port Pacesetter Award.

Jacquez noted: "The exceptional job done by these eight organizations in generating new international business significantly contributed to the Great Lakes Seaway System's overall international cargo tonnage of 11.5 million metric tons last year."

The award is presented to the U.S. Great Lakes Seaway ports and port terminals that registered increases in overseas cargo tonnage shipped through the Seaway during the 1999 navigation season, versus 1998.

The three port organizations to receive this year's award are: the Duluth (Minn.) Seaway Port Authority; Indiana's International Port/Burns Harbor at Portage; and the Port of Oswego (N.Y.) Authority. The Duluth and Oswego ports are both repeat winners this year.

The five award-winning U.S. Great Lakes Seaway port terminals are: AGP Grain, Ltd., at Duluth; Cargill North American Grain, at Duluth; Federal Marine Terminals at Portage, Ind.; Hallett Dock Co. at Duluth; and The Andersons at Toledo, Ohio. The AGP Grain and Federal Marine Terminals companies are also repeat winners this year.

Seaway Corporation Administrator Jacquez plans to personally present the award plaques to each of this year's winners at ceremonies at the local ports over the next several months. He also credited the Great Lakes Seaway ports and terminals for helping the Seaway achieve another very successful year in terms of total cargo tonnage (36.5 million metric tons). "Our joint trade development efforts with the system ports and terminals," Jacquez concluded, "continue to produce solid results that economically benefit the entire Great Lakes region."

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Saint Lawrence
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 23, 2000

Contact: Vicki Garcia
315-764-3208

2000 SEAWAY SHIPPING SEASON
OPENS FOR VESSEL TRAFFIC MARCH 27

or
Dennis Deuschl
202-388-0110

At 11 a.m., Monday, March 27, at the Eisenhower Lock in Massena, N.Y., officials of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) will welcome the first eastbound vessel of the 2000 navigation season to transit the U.S. locks. The passage of the first vessel each spring traditionally signals the start of the new Seaway shipping season. This year's actual opening time is 8 a.m.

The first vessel this year will be the Canadian lake carrier ALGOPORT, a 658-ft. ship owned by the Algoma Central Corporation. The vessel, which will be in ballast, is enroute to Port Cartier, Quebec, where it will load a cargo of iron ore for delivery to Contrecoeur, Quebec.

SLSDC Administrator Albert S. Jacquez observed: "We are definitely looking forward to another strong year for Seaway tonnages and ship transits. This year, we are field testing our new Automated Identification System (AIS) technology, which will greatly aid us in tracking Seaway ships. Testing and evaluation of this state-of-the-art system will be conducted this summer, and we hope to have the new system fully operational by July of 2001."

When the ALGOPORT arrives at the Eisenhower Lock, a team of Seaway Corporation officials, led by SLSDC Director of Lock Operations Carol A. Fenton, will present the ship's officers with souvenirs of their passage.

The 1999 shipping season lasted 270 days, with a March 31 opening and a December 25 closing.

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Saint Lawrence
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 3, 2000

Contact: Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110

INDIANA'S INTERNATIONAL PORT/BURNS HARBOR AND
FEDERAL MARINE TERMINAL EARN SEAWAY PACESETTER AWARDS

Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation Deputy Administrator Craig H. Middlebrook on May 5 will present his agency's Seaway Pacesetter Award to officials of Indiana's International Port/Burns Harbor at Portage, and of Federal Maritime Terminal which is located at the port.

The presentation will be made at 10 a.m. at the local port offices at 6625 South Boundary Drive in Portage, Ind. Accepting the award for the port will be Director E. Peter McCarthy and for Federal Terminal will be General Manager Ian Hirt.

Indiana's International Port was one of only three U.S. Great Lakes ports to achieve the honor this year. The local port previously earned Pacesetter Awards in 1993, 1994, and 1995. This is the second year in which port terminals were eligible for the eight-year-old award, and the second consecutive Seaway Pacesetter Award that Federal Marine has earned.

Award recipients must register international tonnage increases over the previous navigation season. During the 1999 season, Indiana's International Port handled 1.5 million tons of international cargo, a gain of 20% over the previous year, and Federal Marine Terminal handled 664,000 tons of international cargo, an increase of 55 percent over 1998.

Middlebrook noted: "Last year the Seaway registered another strong cargo year of over 36 million metric tons, and total ship transits of 3,167 exceeded the 1998 total. Much of this success is due to the outstanding service provided by the management teams at Indiana's International Port and Federal Marine Terminal. They deserve a lot of credit for a job well done."

The Seaway Pacesetter Award is the Seaway Corporation's only industry recognition program and has been in effect since 1993.

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Saint Lawrence
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 5, 2000

Contact: Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110

THE ANDERSONS TERMINAL IN TOLEDO, OHIO,
TO BE PRESENTED SECOND SEAWAY PACESETTER AWARD

Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) Deputy
Administrator Craig H. Middlebrook on May 9 will present his agency's Seaway
Pacesetter Award to officials of The Andersons (Grain) Terminal located at the Port of
Toledo, Ohio.

The presentation will be made at 11:30 a.m. at the Andersons facility at 440
Kuhlman Drive in Toledo. Accepting the award for The Andersons Terminal will be
General Manager James M. McKinstry. This is the second consecutive year Mr.
McKinstry's organization has garnered the award, which is given to U.S. Great Lakes
ports and terminals that register international tonnage increases over the previous
navigation season. Last year was the first time that eligibility for the award was extended
to include terminal operators.

The Andersons Terminal was one of only five U.S. Great Lakes terminals to
achieve the honor this year. During the 1999 shipping season, The Andersons Terminal
handled 1,033,513 tons of international cargo, an increase of 64 percent over 1998.

Middlebrook noted: "Last year the Seaway registered another strong cargo year of
over 36 million metric tons, and total ship transits of 3,167 exceeded the 1998 total.
Much of this success is due to the outstanding service provided by the management team
of The Andersons Terminal in Toledo. They deserve a lot of credit for a job well done."

The Seaway Pacesetter Award is the Seaway Corporation's only industry
recognition program and has been in effect since 1993.

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**Saint Lawrence
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 16, 2000

Contact: Vicki Garcia
315-764-3208
Or
Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110

**ONE OF LAST WORLD WAR II LIBERTY SHIPS,
THE S.S. JOHN W. BROWN, TO SAIL SEAWAY SYSTEM**

A World War II Liberty Ship, the S. S. JOHN W. BROWN, is expected to transit the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation's locks at Massena, N.Y., on May 24, en route to drydocking at a Toledo, Ohio, ship repair yard, and subsequent visits at eight U.S. and Canadian Great Lakes ports during this summer.

The ship is one of the last survivors of the 2,700-Liberty Ship fleet that transported troops and cargo overseas during World War II. She is 441'6" long, 65'11" wide, weighs 10,920 deadweight tons, and during the war was crewed by 45 members of the U.S. Merchant Marine.

Great Lakes ports where the S. S. JOHN W. BROWN will visit and be open to the public include: Toledo (Ohio), July 15-19; Windsor (Ontario), July 23-24; Erie (Pa.), July 25-27; Cleveland (Ohio), July 28-31; Buffalo (N.Y.), Aug. 1-3; Toronto (Ontario), Aug. 5-7; Montreal (Quebec), Aug. 15-17); and Quebec City, Aug. 18-20.

The JOHN W. BROWN is fitted with numerous museum displays, WW II defensive guns and her quarters, cargo holds and troop berthing spaces are all open to the public. The ship's engine room, with its 140-ton triple expansion steam engine is also open to visitors.

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**Saint Lawrence
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 17, 2000

Contact: Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110

**PORT AUTHORITY OF OSWEGO (N.Y.) TO BE PRESENTED
THIRD CONSECUTIVE SEAWAY PORT PACESETTER AWARD**

Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) Administrator Albert S. Jacquez on May 19 will present his agency's Seaway Port Pacesetter Award to officials of the Port Authority of Oswego (N.Y.). This is the third consecutive year that the local port has garnered the prestigious award for U.S. Great Lakes ports and terminals that register international tonnage increases over the previous navigation season.

The presentation will be made at noon at the Captain's Lounge in Oswego. Accepting the award for the Port Authority of Oswego will be Executive Director Thomas McAuslan. This year Oswego was one of only three U.S. Great Lakes ports to earn the award. During the 1999 shipping season, the Port of Oswego handled 47,141 tons of international cargo, an increase of 55 percent over 1998. Since the award's inception eight years ago, Oswego has been a recipient six times.

Jacquez noted: "Last year the Seaway registered another strong cargo year of over 36 million, and total ship transits of 3,167 exceeded the 1998 total. Much of this success is due to the outstanding service provided by the port management team in Oswego. They deserve a lot of credit for a job well done not only last year, but for all six of the years that Oswego has earned our Seaway Pacesetter Award."

The Seaway Port Pacesetter Award is the Seaway Corporation's only industry recognition program. Since last year, U.S. Great Lakes port terminals are also eligible to receive the award.

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**Saint Lawrence
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 19, 2000

Contact: Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110

**DULUTH PORT, AND THREE PORT TERMINALS,
TO BE PRESENTED SEAWAY PACESETTER AWARDS**

Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation Administrator Albert S. Jacquez on May 22 will present his agency's Seaway Port Pacesetter Awards to officials of the Duluth Seaway Port Authority, and these three terminal companies located at the port: AGP Grain, Ltd.; Cargill North American Grain; and Hallett Dock Company.

The presentation will be made aboard the harbor excursion vessel Vista Star at 11 a.m. Officials accepting the awards for their organizations will be: Executive Director Davis Helberg of the Duluth Seaway Port Authority; Operations Manager, Duluth and Nerstrand Safety and Compliance Coordinator Tom Grosser of AGP Grain, Ltd.; Superintendent John Kauk, of Cargill North American Grain; and Vice President William McGiffert of Hallett Dock Co.

Only U.S. Great Lakes ports and port terminals are eligible for the Seaway Port Pacesetter Award, and winners must have registered international tonnage increases over the previous navigation season. Last year was the first time that eligibility for the eight-year-old award was extended to terminals.

Duluth was one of only three U.S. Great Lakes ports to achieve the honor this year. Duluth also won the award last year, and since the award's inception in 1993, Duluth's port has been a recipient seven times. During the 1999 season, the Duluth Seaway Port Authority handled 5,846,649 tons of international cargo, an increase of 26 percent over 1998.

The three Duluth terminal recipients were among five to garner the award this year. AGP Grain Ltd., also earned the award last year. During the 1999 season, AGP Grain handled 892,197 tons of international cargo (+ 13%), Cargill North American Grain handled 914,700 tons of international cargo (+20%), and Hallett Dock Co. handled 162,641 tons of international cargo (+60%).

Jacquez noted: "Last year the Seaway registered another strong cargo year of over 36 million metric tons, and ship transits of 3,167 exceeded the 1998 total. Much of this success is due to the outstanding service provided by the management teams of the Port of Duluth and the three Duluth terminal companies we are honoring."

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THE ADMINISTRATOR
Room 5424
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
(202) 366-0118



Saint Lawrence
Seaway Development
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 22, 2000

Contact: Dennis E. Deuschl
202-366-0110

SEAWAY TRADE MISSION HEADED FOR GREECE AND TURKEY

Beginning June 5, the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) will lead a delegation of U.S. and Canadian Great Lakes executives on a Seaway Trade Mission to Greece and Turkey.

The delegation is scheduled to visit Athens and Pireaus, Greece, June 5 to June 10, and Istanbul, Turkey, June 10 to June 14. The Athens stop represents a return visit for the Seaway trade missions which last visited there in 1998. The stop in Istanbul is a first for the Seaway Trade Mission Program, although SLSDC officials were previously in Istanbul in 1995 for the biennial meeting of the International Canals and Waterways Chief Executive Officers Group. This year's trade mission delegation is composed of a broad cross-section of top U.S. and Canadian business leaders concerned with maritime commerce throughout the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System.

Seaway Corporation Administrator Albert S. Jacquez, who will serve as this year's mission leader, explained: "Both of these stops are key centers for international maritime trade, and both have a large and influential community of world shipping operators. We expect to make formal presentations to each of these groups, updating them on the Seaway's shipping advantages and customer services, and stressing the need for more Seaway-size ship newbuildings and refittings."

In addition to the formal presentations in each city, many individual one-on-one meetings with potential and existing customers are planned. In Greece, the trade mission delegation will also staff a Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System booth at the biennial Posidonia International Maritime Exposition in Pireaus, the largest event of its kind in the world.

This latest binational Seaway overseas trade mission represents the 22nd that the SLSDC has sponsored or cosponsored over the past 15 years for the purpose of boosting trade through the 2,300-mile Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System.

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**Saint Lawrence
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 23, 2000

Contact: Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110

**FORMER NAVY OFFICIAL NAMED TO
HEAD SEAWAY TRADE DEVELOPMENT**

Rebecca A. McGill, a former intelligence specialist with the U.S. Navy Office of Naval Intelligence in Washington, D.C., and a veteran with 13 years' experience in military and commercial maritime operations, has been appointed Director of Trade Development at the U.S. Department of Transportation's Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC), effective May 29.

In her new post, she heads the SLSDC office that is charged with designing and implementing marketing strategies to promote increased international commercial maritime trade and traffic throughout the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System. Her responsibilities include the organization of annual overseas Seaway trade missions, various trade development sessions with maritime leaders, and extensive liaison with Seaway users.

In announcing the appointment, SLSDC Administrator Albert S. Jacquez said: "Rebecca's distinguished civilian service with the U.S. Navy, and her in-depth background in developing capability studies for ports on all four U.S. seacoasts, her analyses for cost efficient shipping of a variety of cargoes, and her high-level dealings with officials of the U.S. Customs Service and U.S. Coast Guard, make her exceptionally well qualified for her new position."

A native of Chesapeake, Va., McGill recently has completed advanced international shipping studies at the International Maritime Bureau in Blankney, United Kingdom (U.K.); the Academy of Transport at Cambridge University, U.K.; and the Port Management Training Program in Oakland, Calif.

She began her naval intelligence career with the Atlantic Command in Norfolk, Va. in 1988, earning the Meritorious Unit Commendation Award from the Secretary of the Navy. In 1994, she transferred to the Office of Naval Intelligence in Washington, D.C., where she was presented the Meritorious Civilian Service Award.

She and her husband, Rich, reside in Calvert County, Md., with their two sons.

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**Saint Lawrence
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 18, 2000

Contact: Dennis E. Deuschl
202-366-0110

**FORMER U.S. COMMERCE DEPT. OFFICIAL ASSUMES
CHIEF OF STAFF DUTIES AT SEAWAY CORPORATION**

Anita K. Blackman, formerly Director of Operations in the Office of Domestic Operations at the U.S. Department of Commerce's U.S. & Foreign Commercial Service, has been appointed Chief of Staff by Administrator Albert S. Jacquez of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) in Washington, D.C.

Her chief responsibilities will be to assist the Administrator in the execution of various corporate policy decisions and to serve as his liaison with members of the corporation's senior management staff and stakeholders.

SLSDC Administrator Jacquez noted: "Anita's extensive knowledge of international trade and her vast management experience with our corporation and the Department of Commerce (DOC) make her ideally suited to perform the responsibilities of my Chief of Staff."

Mrs. Blackman's most recent duties at the DOC entailed overseeing the programs and operations of over 100 Export Assistance Centers across the Nation – aimed at helping small to medium-sized businesses export their products. Her previous DOC positions involved the oversight of commercial operations in 18 embassies and consulates throughout the Western Hemisphere, and the management of the DOC's Certified Trade Mission and Multi-State Trade Days programs. Prior to joining the DOC in 1991, she was employed for seven years at the SLSDC in Washington, D.C., where she headed the Office of Marketing.

From 1979-82, Mrs. Blackman served on the staff of the Minority Leader of the New York State Assembly in Albany. A native of Fort Plain, N.Y., she holds a bachelor's degree from Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., and attended the University of Bridgeport (Conn.) Law School and the University of Michigan's Center for Survey Research.

She and her husband, Ralph, have two children and reside in Arlington, Va.

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**Saint Lawrence
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 22, 2000

Contact: Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110

**SEAWAY CORPORATION RECOGNIZED AS A
TOTAL QUALITY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AS ITS
3-YEAR ISO-9002 CERTIFICATION PROCESS IS COMPLETED**

The quality management system of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) has been awarded international recognition for the total quality performance of all of its key customer services under the prestigious ISO 9002 Certification Program.

This international certification is only conferred on those service firms and organizations that meet the highest quality customer service and management standards set by the Geneva, Switzerland-based International Organization for Standardization. The London, U.K.-based Lloyds Register of Quality Assurance was the independent accrediting agency that evaluated the SLSDC functions and presented the certificate.

SLSDC Administrator Albert S. Jacquez noted: "This is one of the most significant milestones in our corporation's history and represents the fulfillment of an arduous three-year effort on the part of all of our employees."

"We began preparing for this day back in 1998, when our Vessel Inspection Services function was ISO-certified. At that time, we set the goal of obtaining certification for all of our key services. Last year, Vessel Traffic Services, Administrative Services and Marine Services earned ISO certification, and this year's certification of our Maintenance and Lock Operation functions completed the process for our corporation. We now rank as the only U.S. Department of Transportation administration to be totally certified under the ISO quality program," Administrator proudly explained.

"ISO" is not an acronym, but is a Greek word meaning "equal," as in "equal to the standards set." The numerical designator "9002" signifies standards that apply to service industries. ISO 9002 certification remains effective for a three-year period, and after that time, organizations must be reevaluated to renew their certifications.

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Saint Lawrence
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 23, 2000

Contact: Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110

SEAWAY OFFICIALS ANNOUNCE EARLIEST SHIPPING
SEASON OPENING DATE OF MARCH 23, 2001

Officials of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC), and the Canadian St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation, have announced that the Seaway will be open to shipping next year on March 23 – the earliest opening date in the Seaway's 42 years of operation.

This is also the earliest that the U.S. and Canadian Seaway operating agencies have ever notified the shipping industry of the official opening date for the next navigation season. In the past, the announcement has typically been made one or two months in advance.

SLSDC Administrator Albert S. Jacquez noted: "By announcing the Seaway opening date so much earlier, we are responding to our customers' demand for as much advance notice as possible to plan their upcoming Seaway voyages."

Previously, the Seaway's earliest opening date was March 24, which occurred both in 1980 and 1995.

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Saint Lawrence
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 28, 2000

Contact: Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110

SEAWAY COPORATION FIRST OF A SERIES OF
PORT LISTENING SESSIONS IN PORTAGE, INDIANA

The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) this Thursday, Aug. 31, will launch the first of a series of U.S. Great Lakes "Port Listen-In" meetings at Indiana's International Port/Burns Harbor in Portage. At the Portage event, SLSDC Administrator Albert S. Jacquez will be asking local maritime community representatives for their recommendations to help SLSDC set the priority programs for the Great Lakes Seaway System over the first decade of the 21st century.

The session in Portage, Ind., will be held at the local port authority headquarters from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

In announcing the meeting series, Administrator Jacquez noted: "This is a major customer outreach effort for us that is designed to directly obtain the ideas and recommendations of our System users about what our future program priorities should be for making the waterway we serve safer, more reliable and more competitive. We are really counting on the comments of the local participants involved to help us determine what role they believe we should play in initiating programs to improve the overall System. In addition, we plan to brief the attendees on Corporation initiatives that are already under way."

Future Port Listen-Ins will also be two-hour mid-day sessions over the next several months. The specific locations, with dates and times, will be announced at a later time.

For more information about local arrangements, contact Michael J. O'Connor, the marketing director of Indiana's International Port, at 219-787-8636.

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Saint Lawrence
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 1, 2000

Contact: Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110

SEAWAY CORPORATION LISTEN-IN SESSION TO BE HELD
AT DULUTH (MINN.) SEAWAY PORT AUTHORITY

The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) next Thursday, Sept. 7, will host the second in a series of U.S. Great Lakes "Port Listen-In" meetings at the offices of the Duluth (Minn.) Seaway Port Authority from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. At the meeting, SLSDC Deputy Administrator Craig H. Middlebrook will be asking local maritime community representatives for their recommendations to help SLSDC set the priority programs for the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System over the first decade of the 21st century.

In announcing the series, which began Aug. 31 in Portage, Ind., SLSDC Administrator Albert S. Jacquez noted: "This is a major customer outreach effort for us that is designed to obtain the ideas and recommendations of our System users about what our future program priorities should be for making the waterway we serve safer, more reliable and more competitive. We are really counting on the comments of the local participants involved to help us determine what role they believe we should play in initiating programs to improve the overall System. In addition, we plan to brief the attendees on Corporation initiatives that are already under way."

Future Port Listen-Ins will be held at other U.S. Great Lakes ports over the next several months, and they will also be two-hour mid-day sessions. The specific locations, with dates and times, will be announced at a later time.

Also accompanying Deputy Middlebrook to the Duluth event will be SLSDC Director of Trade Development Rebecca McGill. For more details about local arrangements in Duluth, contact Lisa Marciniak at the Duluth Seaway Port Authority at 218-727-8525.

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**Saint Lawrence
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 7, 2000

Contact: Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110

**SEAWAY TRADE MISSION HEADS
FOR ENGLAND AND THE NETHERLANDS**

Beginning September 16, the U.S. Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) and the Canadian St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC) will lead a delegation of U.S. and Canadian Great Lakes executives on a Seaway Trade Mission to London, England, and to Amsterdam and Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

The delegation is scheduled to visit London from Sept. 16 to Sept. 20, and will be in Amsterdam and Rotterdam from Sept. 21-22. The stop in London represents a return visit for the Seaway Trade Mission program, which last sent a mission delegation there in 1992. The stop in The Netherlands is also a return stop. Rotterdam was last visited in 1990 and The Hague was visited in 1996. This year's delegation of top U.S. and Canadian business leaders will be promoting maritime commerce throughout the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System.

SLSDC Administrator Albert S. Jacquez explained: "London is considered by many to be the center of world shipping and it unquestionably exerts enormous influence on international shipping standards and finance. Rotterdam is Europe's largest seaport and is a major receiver and transshipper of Seaway cargoes. In London we will focus on both trade promotion and educating the vessel insurance industry about the Seaway's stellar safety record, and in The Netherlands trade promotion will be a priority."

In London, a formal presentation will be made to insurance industry and shipping officials, and in both countries many individual one-on-one business appointments are scheduled between customers and potential customers, and the mission delegates.

SLSMC Vice President, Strategic and Business Development Camille Trepanier noted: "Seaway customers always appreciate meeting with our binational delegation because they can find out everything they need to know about our System in a single session. In the process, we also hope to attract many new customers once they understand the advantages of Seaway shipping."

This latest binational Seaway overseas trade mission represents the 23rd that the SLSDC has sponsored or cosponsored over the past 15 years for the purpose of boosting trade through the 2,300-mile Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System.

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