

Baltimore Sun

Container cargo continues rebound in Baltimore

By Lorraine Mirabella

October 12, 2010

Container cargo at the port of Baltimore's public terminals in August was its second-highest amount ever for a single month, continuing a strong rebound, port officials said Tuesday.

In August, 57,510 TEUs, or 20-foot equivalent units, came across the city's docks. In July, container traffic had set a record with 63,740 TEUs. Container cargo was strong in June as well, with 57,277 TEUs. Before that, the record was 56,454 TEUs, set in July 2005 — before the economic downturn. A standard 40-foot shipping container contains 2 TEUs.

The trend shows that consumer demand is strengthening, with more cargo being exported and imported, Gov. Martin O'Malley said in a statement.

The Maryland Port Administration, which oversees the port's public terminals, had signed two long-term contracts in 2008 with leading container shipping companies, the Mediterranean Shipping Co. and Evergreen Marine Corp., which has helped boost cargo. The port generates about 16,700 direct jobs.

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Journal of Commerce

Baltimore Containers Surge to Second-Highest Month

Throughput climbed 21.7 percent in August to 57,510 TEUs

Peter T. Leach

Container throughput at the Port of Baltimore surged by 21.7 percent in August to 57,510 20-foot equivalent units, compared to the 47,259 TEUs in the same month last year when trade was severely impacted by the recession.

Although the volume of containers handled by the port was down .09 percent sequentially from the record volume of 63,740 TEUs in July of this year, it was still the second strongest month for container volume in the port's history.

Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley attributed the strong volume to rising consumer demand for imports and strong exports. "These are all very favorable signs as we continue to recover from an extremely challenging economic decline," he said.

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WBAL Radio

Port Officials Report Record Summer

Tuesday, October 12, 2010

Robert Lang

Richard Scher of the Maryland Port Administration talks about a record summer for the Port.

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<http://www.wbal.com/absolutem/templates/story.aspx?articleid=60310&zoneid=3>

Officials at the Port of Baltimore say it was a record summer for container traffic at the Port.

The Maryland Port Administration says 57,150 TEU (Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit) containers passed through the Port in August.

In July, 63,740 containers were brought through the Port, and in June, 57,277 containers were handled at the Port.

Port officials say that three month period broke the old record for containers that was set in the Summer, 2005.

Maryland Port Administration spokesman Richard Scher says the number of containers of goods coming into and out of the port is a sign of the health of the Maryland economy.

Governor Martin O'Malley said in a news release that the number of containers "is very good news for retailers, consumers and jobs at the Port."

He says it indicates that more cargo is being exported and imported at the Port, and it points to signs of an economic recovery.

Scher said the goods that move through the Port include finished goods like imported toys and electronics, as

Logistics Management Ocean shipping: August volumes at Port of Baltimore are second-highest ever, says MPA

By Jeff Berman, Group News Editor

October 13, 2010

Recent monthly volume gains at the Port of Baltimore's public marine terminals continued their record-breaking pace in August, according to data released this week by the Maryland Port Administration (MPA).

In August, 57,510 TEU (Twenty-foot equivalent units) moved through the Port of Baltimore, marking the second highest monthly volume total ever recorded at the port, behind only July, which hit 63,740 TEU. Rounding out the top five volume months at the port are June 2010, July 2005, and July 2006 at 57,277 TEU, 56,454 TEU, and 56,219 TEU, respectively.

MPA spokesman Richard Scher said these volume gains are a sign that consumer demand is beginning to bounce back, with more purchases being made and people's buying confidence being somewhat stronger than it was a year ago.

"The improving economy—even though we are at the beginning of the recovery—is certainly a big part of this, but another big part is that two years ago we were able to sign MSC and Evergreen to extended long-term agreements in Baltimore," said Scher.

Both carriers are under contract for the next several years, which, Scher explained, will keep containers coming into the port and maintain existing port jobs. MSC's contract runs through 2014, and Evergreen's is through 2018. Hapag-Lloyd, APL, and NSCSA among several other carriers call on the Port of Baltimore, too.

"The recent surge in containers coming through the Port of Baltimore is very good news for retailers, consumers and jobs at the Port," said Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley in a statement. "This trend indicates that consumer demand is on the rise, more goods are being produced and more cargo is being exported and imported. These are all very favorable signs as we continue to recover from an extremely challenging economic decline."

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Container traffic at Port of Baltimore up 21.7 percent in August

Container traffic at the Port of Baltimore increased 21.7 percent year-over-year in August to 57,510 TEU's, making it the second strongest month for container volume in the Port of Baltimore's history.

Despite the increase, however, the actual volume of containers the port handled decreased month-on-month from 63,740 TEU's handled in July of this year, which was the all-time volume record for the port.