



The Maryland Port Administration

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 14, 2010

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FORD BRINGS MORE CARS THROUGH THE PORT OF BALTIMORE

Vehicles Will Help Support Auto Jobs at Dundalk Marine Terminal

(BALTIMORE MD) --- More cars are arriving at the Port of Baltimore with the arrival of new Ford Fiestas. The imported vehicles, which began arriving June 24 onboard a K Line roll on/roll off vessel, will continue arriving throughout the rest of this year at the Port's Dundalk Marine Terminal.

"We are happy to welcome more Ford products to the Port of Baltimore," said Governor Martin O'Malley. Good-paying, family supporting auto jobs at the Port benefit greatly when more cars come through Baltimore. Ford's decision to bring more cars to Baltimore is another good sign for Maryland as we begin our recovery from the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression."

The number of autos handled at the Port of Baltimore is up about 16 percent over the same time last year. Earlier this year, BMW began shipping the first of 50,000 new vehicles through the Port of Baltimore annually for the next five years. That agreement is generating about 200 new jobs.

The Port of Baltimore also serves as the primary port of entry for the Ford Transit Connect van. Baltimore receives about 85 percent of the 35,000 vans that are imported into the U.S. annually.

Autos are one of the main commodities handled at the Port of Baltimore's public marine terminals. Approximately 1,150 direct jobs at the Port are generated by the Port's auto business.

In 2009, the Port of Baltimore handled about 375,000 cars total.

The Maryland Port Administration (MPA) recently announced that it handled more autos in March at the public marine terminals of the Port of Baltimore than at any time in at least the last ten years. In March, 38,053 autos came through the Port's public terminals. The Port's previous record for most cars handled was 37,552 in July 2008. In January 2009 in the heart of the economic downturn, auto volumes at the Port dropped to 13,558 cars.

The Port of Baltimore generates about 16,700 direct jobs. Out of about 360 U.S. ports, Baltimore is ranked number one for handling roll on/roll off cargo; trucks; imported forest products; and imported gypsum, sugar and iron ore. The Port is responsible for about \$3.7 billion in personal wage and salary income. Activities at the Port of Baltimore generate nearly \$400 million in state and local taxes.

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