

The Seaway Opens the 58th Navigation Season



Season opening (left – right): Terence Bowles, President, SLSMC; Jerry Stemmler, Chief Engineer, CSL *Thunder Bay*; Captain Jason Church, CSL *Thunder Bay*; Betty Sutton, Administrator, SLSDC; Francois Allard, Director Marine Distribution, K+S Windsor Salt Ltd.; and Allister Patterson, President, CSL.

The U.S. and Canadian Seaway Corporations marked the opening of the Seaway's 58th navigation season on March 21, 2016, with the transit of Canada Steamship Lines' (CSL) *Thunder Bay* through Lock 3 on the Welland Canal. The ship, carrying a load of road salt, will be replenishing stocks depleted by ice storms that repeatedly struck Eastern Canada over the winter.

Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation's (SLSDC) Administrator Betty Sutton attended the official opening and joined the crowd in welcoming the state-of-the-art Trillium class vessel into the Seaway System. CSL's new class of vessel raises standards in operational and energy efficiency, reliability and environmental protection.

"The Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System continues to be an environmentally sustainable, vital route for commerce in the global supply chain," said Betty Sutton. "The Great Lakes region, North America's 'Opportunity Belt', is a thriving and influential destination and the Seaway System connects this region to the world. Increasingly, businesses are choosing to move their cargo through the Seaway System because of the economic benefits, safety, and reliability of our waterway, and its direct access to and from the heartland of North America."

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ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Women on the Move in Transportation



Betty Sutton
Administrator

This year, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) is celebrating its 50th anniversary by observing a different theme each month. Since March was Women's History Month, Secretary Foxx

selected the month of March to be a "Celebration of Women in Transportation." To build on the Department's involvement with the White House Council on Women and Girls, DOT held an event at the White

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GUEST COLUMNIST

Kate Ferguson Director of Business Development, Duluth Seaway Port Authority

DULUTH CARGO CONNECT: It's all in a Name

In July of last year, I was honored to be named Director of Business Development for the Duluth Seaway Port Authority. On my first day, Vanta Coda, Port Authority Executive Director, explained a number of organizational initiatives, including a new agreement that had just been signed with Lake Superior Warehousing (LSW), operating agent for our terminal for the past 25 years.

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House on March 15 to celebrate women across the USDOT. The 50th anniversary forum focused on energizing, engaging, and empowering women in transportation.

I was proud to send three representatives from the SLSDC to that event to share what they do at the SLSDC as part of the discussion highlighting the contributions of women to our nation's transportation system. They heard from several women in leadership roles in the transportation industry about how they are helping strengthen the network of women working in transportation. The 80 women who attended the White House event explored how their work is connected to the Department's priorities focused on Innovation, Opportunity, and Safety. All of the participants provided their thoughts on ways to advance women across the transportation industry. Transportation—especially the maritime mode—is an industry made up of far more men than women. This gathering provided an opportunity to demonstrate why we need women in transportation and how they are making a difference.

To help advance that effort, I am fortunate to be a part of the Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) organization, which provides an opportunity for me to be a mentor to young professionals. WTS is an international organization dedicated to building the future of transportation by helping women find opportunity and recognition in transportation fields. Through networking opportunities and access to industry and government leaders, WTS is essentially a 'career portal'. Last year I had the chance to participate in a WTS Mentoring Program career panel and encouraged the young women there to consider careers in transportation. Since my participation on that panel, I have also had the opportunity to meet one-on-one with some of the attendees to discuss their goals and plans.

Every day, women working alongside men make a positive and noteworthy difference in transportation fields. In that light, I am pleased to commend Ms. Helen Brohl, the Executive Director of the Committee on Maritime Transportation Systems (CMTS), who was recently named an "Outstanding

Woman in the Maritime and Port sectors of the Americas" in the category of Public Policy, Legislation and Regulation. This high honor was awarded by the Organization of American States to Ms. Brohl in Panama City, Panama, during the Hemispheric Seminar on Corporate Social Responsibility and Gender Equality in the Port Sector. She was selected from entries from all sub-regions of the Hemisphere (North, Central, South America, and the Caribbean). As part of the CMTS, the SLSDC works closely with Ms. Brohl and she has always been a leading voice and advocate for maritime commerce. We are fortunate to have one of our own honored with this prestigious award and it should inspire us to remember that we need to celebrate women in transportation not just one month of the year, but each and every day. ■■■

Winners of the Robert J. Lewis Pacesetter Award

The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation recently announced the Robert J. Pacesetter Award Winners for the 2015 Navigation Season. Six U.S. Great Lakes Seaway System ports are receiving the prestigious award for registering increases in international cargo tonnage shipped through their ports during the 2015 navigation season compared to the previous year.

The six ports that won the Pacesetter Award for 2015 are:

- Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority
- Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority
- Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority
- Port of Green Bay
- Port of Monroe
- Port of Oswego Authority ■■■



THE SEAWAY OPENS THE 58TH
NAVIGATION SEASON
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"The ongoing investment in new vessels by a variety of Seaway carriers underscores our customers' faith in the future of the waterway," said The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation's President and CEO, Terence Bowles. "In parallel with our customers' investments, the Seaway's award winning modernization program is now well-over 50 percent complete, with Hands-Free Mooring operational at eight of the Seaway's locks. We are making steady progress in bringing about gains in efficiency and safety for all concerned, ensuring a highly competitive transportation system for years to come."

Just as the private sector is investing in new vessels, public sector investments in lock rehabilitation, port infrastructure, and new navigation technologies are laying the foundation for sustained future growth of the Seaway System. On the U.S. side, the SLSDC began an Asset Renewal Program (ARP) in Fiscal Year 2009 to modernize the U.S. Seaway infrastructure. In the first seven years

of the program, the SLSDC has spent \$109 million on 50 separate projects to keep our assets in the best condition possible.

Immediately following the transit of the last vessel through the two U.S. Seaway locks on December 29, the SLSDC began dewatering and preparing its locks for major capital improvement work as part of its ARP. After each navigation season, SLSDC crews inspect and perform preventative maintenance at both the Eisenhower and Snell Locks, located in Massena, N.Y., and manage the oversight of large-scale capital improvement projects, utilizing the binational waterway's non-navigation period (typically late December to late March).

"I could not be more proud of the SLSDC workforce. These dedicated men and women once again rose to the challenge to prepare the locks for the new shipping season, completing a significant amount of work in a short period of time under difficult and often-times unpredictable conditions. With completion of the winter work, we can

count on the Seaway being in prime condition and ready for the 2016 navigation season," said Betty Sutton.

In terms of the outlook for 2016, the SLSDC's Terence Bowles noted that a lower Canadian dollar may spur more Canadian exports this year. "The combination of a rebound in Canadian manufacturing activity, a solid U.S. economy, and the prospect of more trade with Europe brings about several catalysts which may boost Seaway tonnage," said Bowles.

The Great Lakes Seaway System – and the SLSDC – make a big difference not only to the communities in the Great Lakes region, but across the country, connecting our domestic markets to the rest of the world. ■ ■ ■

Port of Green Bay Receives Pacesetter Award

During the April 11, 2016, Green Bay Port Symposium, Administrator Betty Sutton presented the Robert J. Pacesetter plaque to the Port of Green Bay that registered a 42 percent increase in international cargo. ■ ■ ■



Left to right: Troy Streckenbach, Brown County Executive; Betty Sutton, Administrator, SLSDC; Tom Klimek, President, Brown County Harbor Commission; and Dean Haen, Director, Port of Green Bay

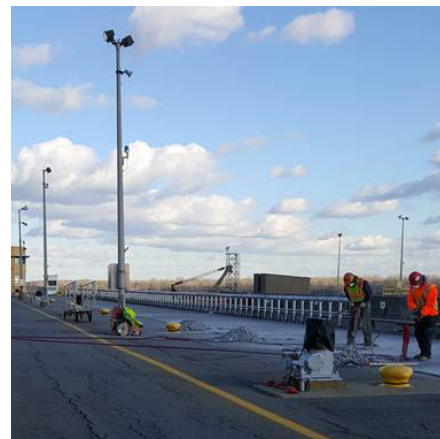
SLSDC Develops Innovative Lock Wall Fall Protection System

In late 2014, the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) met with the Occupational Safety Health Administration (OSHA) and it was determined that a safer procedure for locking ships during vessel transits was needed. To put this in historical perspective, the procedures for securing mooring lines had remained largely unchanged for over 50 years since the opening of the Seaway in 1959. Lock Operations, Maintenance, Engineering and Safety personnel were tasked with developing enhanced safety alternatives, finding agreement on a feasible solution, creating an implementation plan and evaluating the final results.

The problem-solving process first started with a need to determine an interim procedure to abate the fall hazard while

finding a long-term solution. This resulted in developing a creative temporary tie-off procedure utilizing the mooring bollards along the lock walls with special lanyards, retractable devices and harnesses. With the temporary procedure in place, SLSDC personnel began brainstorming and ideas to create a permanent fall protection system.

The SLSDC's ultimate goal was to create a system that would be simple, repeatable and not cumbersome to the employees or to the work process. The solution also had to overcome long-standing assumptions about operating and maintenance procedures that had been successfully employed for many years. Numerous employees spent hundreds of hours considering many alternatives.



The final engineered solution resulted in an innovative lock wall fall protection system that is believed to be “first of its kind” with respect to existing inland waterway lock facilities throughout North America. ■■■

Seatrade Cruise Shipping Exhibition

The March 14-17, 2016 Seatrade Cruise Shipping Exhibition held in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. was the most successful event to date for marketing the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System to cruise ship owners and operators. Booth traffic was brisk and delegation members were approached by multiple cruise ship owners, operators, charterers and entrepreneurs with specific initiatives to bring added cruise inventory into the Great Lakes. Some of those conversations covered the current state of affairs for the cruise ships *Pearl Mist* and the *Saint Laurent*; Ponent Cruise Lines plans to expand their fleet with the potential to bring one of those new ships to the Great Lakes. Also discussed was pending purchase and renovation of the cruise ship *Yorktown* that sailed in the Great Lakes several years ago.



The Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System delegation.

Delegation members representing the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System were Mike Riehl, Toronto Port Authority; Will Friedman, Port of Cleveland; Linda Hart, Convention and Visitors Bureau, Holland, MI; Rebecca Yackley, Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation; Peter Burgess, St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation; Stefane Scourtellis, Navitrans Shipping Agency; Cindy Larson, Chamber of Commerce, Muskegon, Mich.; Noreen Cartwright, Government of Ontario; and Stephen Burnett, Executive Director, Great Lakes Cruising Coalition. ■■■

GUEST COLUMNIST KATE FERGUSON
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Vanta explained that the Port Authority's trade development mission is dedicated to *multimodal* transportation, not only maritime commerce. He also praised LSW for its world-class cargo handling expertise and unparalleled reputation for customer service. As he said, "The new agreement aligns our energies and expertise to serve regional industries even more efficiently, not to mention expanding our growth potential in overseas markets. It also strengthens what's become an extremely successful working partnership."

Through the past several months, my relationship with LSW and our broad customer base has grown and evolved. Jonathan Lamb, LSW President, and I have been making joint business calls to customers in the Upper Midwest and across Canada. During our travels, we realized that instead of speaking as representatives from two different organizations, it was the perfect time to blend and reenergize our marketing efforts to better reflect the synergy of our new strategic alignment.

This month, as we head to major breakbulk conferences and industry trade shows in the U.S. and Europe, we are thrilled to be rolling out our new branding initiative – DULUTH CARGO CONNECT – messaging created to identify the working partnership of the Duluth Seaway Port Authority and Lake Superior Warehousing. Together, we provide seamless cargo handling, storage, distribution, and transportation logistics services for cargoes moving in and out of North America's heartland.

DULUTH CARGO CONNECT meets the supply chain needs of a range of industries, linking the heartland

of the U.S. and Canada to markets around the world. With connections to congestion-free roads, three major freight corridors, four Class I railroads and direct access to the Great Lakes-Seaway system, the Port of Duluth delivers heavyweight performance when it comes to moving breakbulk and heavy lift project cargo.

We are pleased to introduce DULUTH CARGO CONNECT to our colleagues and customers along the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway and around the world. We encourage customers to take full advantage of the multimodal connections we have to offer here in Duluth. Be sure to check us out at: www.duluthcargo.com. Or, next time you see Vanta, Jonathan, or myself, ask to see our business card. We can't wait to show off our new look! ■■■



SLSDC 2015 Annual Report Released

The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) recently released its Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Report and has posted it on the binational website – <http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com/en/pdf/fy2015ar.pdf>.

Fiscal Year 2015 was a very successful year with many projects and initiatives completed. The Corporation remained strongly committed to its effective operational program geared toward ensuring safety and reliability, and to its Asset Renewal Program focused on improving and renewing the U.S. Seaway infrastructure. ■ ■ ■



Great Lakes Seaway Ballast Water Working Group Releases 2015 Report

In February the Ballast Water Working Group (BWWG) released its 2015 Summary of Great Lakes Seaway Ballast Water Management.

During 2015, 100 percent of vessels bound for the Great Lakes Seaway from outside the Exclusive Economic Zone received a ballast water management examination.

In total, the BWWG assessed all 8,361 ballast tanks on the 455 vessels that transited during the 2015 navigation season.

The Great Lakes Seaway Ballast Water Working Group is a binational group of representatives from the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Saint Lawrence Seaway

Development Corporation, Transport Canada - Marine Safety & Security, and the Canadian St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation. The group's mandate is to develop, enhance, and coordinate binational compliance and enforcement efforts to reduce the introduction of aquatic invasive species via ballast water and residuals.

This is the seventh consecutive year that BWWG agencies ensured the examination of 100 percent of ballast tanks entering the Great Lakes via the St. Lawrence Seaway, and the group anticipates continued high ship compliance rates for the 2016 navigation season. The Great Lakes Aquatic Nonindigenous Species Information

System (GLANSIS) confirms that no new species have been established through ballast water since 2006 in the Great Lakes. This 9-year period represents the longest period of "non-establishment" since construction of the Seaway in 1959. The Seaway's ballast water inspection program has been publicly credited as a key factor in the effective management of ballast water discharges and in preventing the establishment of any ship-borne new species in the Great Lakes since 2006.

For the entire report go to:
<http://www.uscgnews.com/clients/4007/695198.pdf>. ■ ■ ■

Memorial Ceremony For Seaway Construction Workers



In the 1950s, tens of thousands of individuals worked to construct the St. Lawrence Seaway, which was recognized as an engineering marvel of the twentieth century. The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) will hold a Memorial Ceremony on June 3, 2016, at the Eisenhower Lock Visitors' Center, to honor those workers who lost their lives during the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway. We need your assistance getting the word out and identifying anyone who worked on the construction of the Seaway from 1954–1959. We would like to speak with the family members and have them share their stories. If you have contact information or can refer us to the families of these workers please contact Kyle Savage at (202) 366-0898, or kyle.savage@dot.gov. ■ ■ ■

Seaway Corporations Lead HwyH₂O Initiatives in 2016

Together, the U.S. Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) and the Canadian Saint Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC) have spearheaded two new initiatives under the binational HwyH₂O marketing program in 2016: increased outreach to North American logisticians and freight forwarders as well as increased outreach to U.S. grain traders, shippers, and associated agribusiness stakeholders.

Great Lakes Regional Representative Adam Schlicht and SLSMC Manager of Market Development Vince D'Amico have been working extensively with North American logisticians and freight forwarders throughout the Great Lakes region and beyond, including the creation of new and vital linkages in both the Houston, Texas and New York

City markets, such as the International Transportation Management Association (ITMA). As directed by HwyH₂O leaders and member ports, the Corporations have deliberately and successfully introduced, developed reinvigorated interest in, and provided vital information to supply chain decision makers impacting maritime activity throughout the Great Lakes Seaway system.

Similarly, both Seaway Corporations have also successfully increased their outreach to stakeholders impacting U.S. grain shipments throughout North America, following a directive received at the Toronto-based HwyH₂O Annual General Meeting (AGM) in January 2016. In particular, the Corporations are working to develop new pilot programs for shipping U.S. agribusiness from Great Lakes ports. Existing coordination has included

outreach with the U.S. Grains Council as well as the U.S. National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) and their respective component membership organizations and companies.

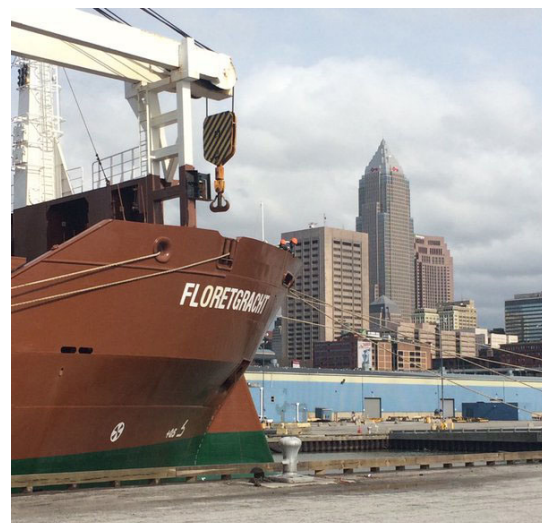
The meetings and linkages established through these two initiatives have created renewed interest by potential customers and shippers for Great Lakes ports in the United States and Canada. Both programs are expected to continue and grow in the future; individuals and other Great Lakes Seaway System stakeholders interested in supporting and/or participating in these initiatives should email both Adam Schlicht, at adam.schlicht@dot.gov as well as Vince D'Amico, at vdamico@seaway.ca. ■■■

REMINDER:

Breakbulk Europe exhibition in Antwerp, Belgium beginning on May 23, 2016. Come visit us at the HWYH₂O booth – HALL 4 in Booth 919.

The Cleveland-Europe Express Continues to Grow

The Port of Cleveland's transcontinental liner service, the Cleveland-Europe Express (CEE), continues to serve more clients and expand the markets it touches as it begins the 2016 shipping season. Operated by Spliethoff Group, the CEE provides the Great Lakes economy direct maritime access to global markets. This year, CEE ships will increase the frequency of their visits, traveling more than twice monthly between Cleveland and Antwerp. The CEE has also added a streamlined connection for cargo to and from India and is leveraging a partnership between Spliethoff and Puyvast, a firm with an extensive network at all major Indian ports. The Port of Cleveland expects the CEE's rapid growth to continue, following significant increases in volume during its first two years of operation. That growth includes a nearly 500 percent jump in international container volume in 2015 as compared with 2014. ■■■



Personnel News



John A. Downey, an internationally prominent aquatic researcher and educator, recently became the Director of the Minnesota Sea Grant College Program and a professor in the Department of Biology at the University of Minnesota. Mr. Downey's career involves accolades for research, education and science policy. He sees water as the world's most important strategic resource and commented that he feels privileged to be focusing the next part of his career on his home waters in the "land of 10,000 lakes" and on Lake Superior, the world's most expansive freshwater sea. ■ ■ ■

Upcoming Events

May

May 16–19

Association for Iron and Steel Technology (AISTech) Conference 2016

Pittsburgh, PA

Info: <https://www.aist.org/home.aspx>

May 23–26

AWEA Windpower Conference

New Orleans, LA

Info: <http://www.windpowerexpo.org/>

May 23–26

Breakbulk Europe 2016

Antwerp, Belgium

Info: <http://www.breakbulk.com/events/breakbulk-europe/breakbulk-europe-2016/>

May 25

St. Lawrence River Institute

Cornwall, Ontario Canada

Info: <http://riverinstitute.ca/river-symposium/program-speakers/>

May 30–June 1

Greentech 2016

Quebec City, Canada

Contact: Manon Lanthier,
(418) 649-6004 ext. 302;
manon.lanthier@greenmarine.org

June

June 13–15

World Steel Dynamics – Steel Success Strategies Conference

New York, NY

Info: <http://www.amm.com/events/amm-steel-success-strategies/details.html>

Summer 2016 (Tall Ships Challenge)

Great Lakes Ports throughout the U.S. and Canada

Info: <http://www.sailtraining.org/tallships/2016greatlakes/TSC2016index.php>

August

August 7–9

TrustBelt Conference 2016

Chicago, IL

Info: <http://www.trustbelt.com/>

August 22–24

Ohio Conference on Freight

Cleveland, OH

Contact: Christine Connell,
(419) 241-9155 ext. 119;
connell@ohiofreight.org

August 30–September 1

Midwest Specialty Grains Conference

Indianapolis, Indiana

Info: <http://www.grainconference.org/>