

Opening of Seaway's 65th Navigation Season



(L-R): Maja Vodanovic, Mayor of the Borough of Lachine and member of the Executive Committee of the city of Montreal; Christopher Coes, Assistant Secretary Transportation Policy, U.S. Department of Transportation; Dominic Rochon, Associate Deputy Minister, Transport Canada; Adam Tindall-Schlicht, Administrator, U.S. Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation; Terence Bowles, President and CEO, St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation; Danielle Lewis, Manager of Raw Materials, ArcelorMittal Dofasco; Gregg Ruhl, President & CEO, Algoma Central Corporation at the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway's 2023 navigation season. March 22, 2023. St. Lambert Lock in Montreal, Canada. Photo credit: The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC).

Wednesday, March 22, 2023 marked the opening of the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System's (Seaway System) 65th navigation season. The Seaway System is a key link in North America's supply chain, connecting the U.S. and Canadian Great Lakes ports with the world. The U.S. Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (GLS) joined its partner, the Canadian St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC), at the opening ceremony of the binational waterway, which took place at St. Lambert Lock in Montreal, Canada.

"At a time when we are working to strengthen our nation's supply chains, the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System plays a central role, helping us move tens of millions of tons of goods each year, supporting hundreds of thousands of jobs, and combating climate change," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. "As we open the Seaway System's 65th season, it remains a model of international cooperation and a cornerstone of America's trade with the rest of the world."

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ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Expanding Domestic and Global Outreach to Support Seaway Shipping in 2023 and Beyond



Adam Tindall-Schlicht
Administrator.

Since the international shipping season began on the St. Lawrence on March 22, the U.S. and Canadian Seaway Corporations have been busy on a multitude of fronts. To ensure robust activity throughout the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway (GLSLS) system, the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway

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GUEST COLUMN

RADM Jonathan P. Hickey, USCG Commander, Ninth Coast Guard District



On April 27, 2023, I had the honor and privilege of assuming command of the U.S. Coast Guard's Ninth District as the operational commander for the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River and its 5,200 regular, reserve, civilian and Auxiliary members. I am extremely excited to be here and exceptionally grateful to be a part of Team District Nine!

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GLS Administrator Adam Tindall-Schlicht, and SLSMC President/CEO Terence Bowles welcomed the transit of the first commercial vessel of the season. USDOT Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy, Christopher Coes, and Transport Canada Associate Deputy Minister Dominic Rochon participated in the ceremony.

"As the binational waterway turns 65, it is resilient and ready for the future," said GLS Administrator Adam Tindall-Schlicht. "New technologies, an exceptional reliability record, and significant investments in infrastructure are enhancing efficiencies and keeping the Seaway safe and competitive. We look forward to robust international and domestic trade throughout the shipping season."

"The St. Lawrence Seaway is a vital link in the North American supply chain, supporting industries, creating jobs and assisting with sustainable development," said Terence Bowles, President and CEO of the SLSMC. "With its advanced technology, the Seaway provides a reliable transportation route for ships transiting the system carrying a wide range of commodities required by citizens on a daily basis. We look forward to greater use of this marine corridor and are optimistic about a strong start to the navigation season."



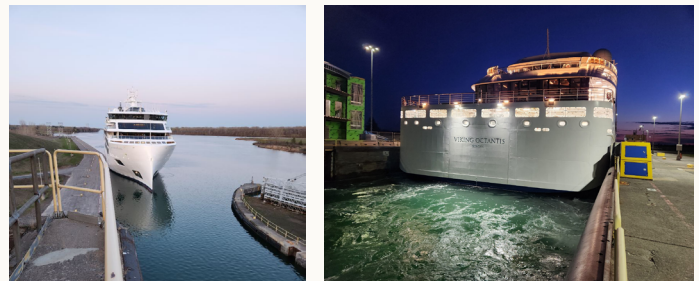
The 740' Capt. Henry Jackman, a Seawaymax Equinox Bulk Carrier built in 2021, was the first ship to transit through the lock at St. Lambert on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, marking the start of the 65th navigation season of the St. Lawrence Seaway. Photo Credit: The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC).

Visit the following link to watch the official opening ceremony of the 65th navigation season: [2023 Seaway Opening Ceremony](#). ■ ■ ■

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN
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Development Corporation (GLS) and St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC) have been meeting with stakeholders, Great Lakes ports in the U.S. and Canada, vessel and terminal operators, agents, shippers, other customers, stakeholders, and more in recent months. Expanding the Seaway's efforts in global outreach and supporting increased maritime utilization and shipping throughout the Great Lakes remains a predominating goal and guiding vision. Taken together, I have every confidence we will realize the full capacity of the System.

This edition of the *Seaway Compass* provides readers with exciting updates on these outreach efforts from the earliest weeks of the 2023 shipping season. From the first passage of the *Viking Octantis* cruise ship to the arrival of the GLS *Seaway Trident* and ongoing cargo transits each day, there has been tremendous activity. Spearheading that charge is a new generation of Great Lakes leaders that will help support continued growth on the Seaway. Please read on to learn more about the new [GLS Deputy Administrator, Anthony \(Tony\) Fisher](#) and [GLS Executive Officer, Sylvonica Madlock](#). Similarly, I recently traveled to Port Cleveland to welcome the new U.S. Coast Guard 9th District Real Admiral, [Jonathan Hickey](#), who is responsible for safety and security oversight for the entirety of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River for the next two years. Together, Mr. Fisher, Ms. Madlock, and RADM Hickey are already bringing passion, perspective, and purpose to the GLSLS. I welcome their vision, support, camaraderie, and leadership.



Viking Octantis cruise ship transiting the U.S. St. Lawrence Seaway in April 2023.

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I recently led a delegation of port, vessel agent, and travel excursion planners to the [Seatrade Cruise Global](#) Conference in Fort Lauderdale at the end of March. In Florida, the GLS was also a proud sponsor of the Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) business meeting, and I had the opportunity to discuss Great Lakes cruise itineraries before the world's leading cruise specialists, chief executives, and decision makers. The success story of international cruise activity on the Seaway and throughout the Great Lakes continues to spread worldwide, and the GLS will continue to advance new opportunities to realize cruise growth as led by local port and harbor communities.

Innovative work to expand the Great Lakes maritime economy is taking place in every corner of the system, and I'm particularly humbled to expand awareness of the port-led initiatives. As such, I recently attended the [Transport Logistics](#) Conference in Munich, leading a delegation of Great Lakes stakeholders and Seaway users. As a result of these trade development efforts, the GLS will continue to expand Seaway-led outreach to foreign freight forwarders while growing key trade lanes between the Great Lakes and the ports of Amsterdam, Antwerp, Bilbao, Genoa, Niedersachsen, and more.



In April 2023, GLS Administrator Adam Tindall-Schlicht (second from left) toured the Ports of Indiana-Burns Harbor with Port Director Ryan McCoy (far left), Ports of Indiana CEO Jody Peacock (second from right) and Northwest Indiana Forum CEO Heather Ennis (far right).

Outreach closer to home throughout the System has taken place in recent weeks. I've traveled to the Port of Muskegon, meeting with operators increasing commercial tonnage at a new terminal located at the former B.C. Cobb site; to the Ports of Indiana at Burns Harbor, strategizing with local leaders and port tenants

about continued growth; to the Port of Green Bay as a featured speaker at its annual port symposium; and to the Port of Duluth honoring the legendary Dr. Richard Stewart, formerly of the Transportation and Logistics Research Center at the University of Wisconsin-Superior, on National Maritime Day.



With U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg and Transport Canada Minister Alghabra in attendance, Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation Administrator Tindall-Schlicht provided remarks at the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Transportation Ministerial Meetings in Detroit in May 2023.

National leaders in the United States and Canada are promoting trade throughout the Seaway as well. Great Lakes ports were also strategically highlighted by U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg and Transport Canada Minister Omar Alghabra at the recent Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Transportation Ministerial Meetings in Detroit. Joining the ports of Detroit, Windsor (Ontario), and Toledo, I moderated an APEC workshop attended by 21 world economies that emphasized the commercial and supply chain capacity of the Great Lakes region through development of the [green shipping corridor](#) in our region.

My enduring commitment is to create new opportunities that showcase the importance and potential of domestic and international trade throughout the Great Lakes Seaway System – via diplomatic, business development, community outreach and other partnership building opportunities – throughout my tenure as Seaway Administrator. Our efforts to expand outreach is already taking shape and proving beneficial for all System stakeholders. ■ ■ ■

The partnerships and collaborative nature of the many government agencies, industry members and public stakeholders that make up the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway system is well known and respected among the U.S. Coast Guard's leadership and its service members. My intent is to remain an integral part of this successful bi-national team that supports the common marine transportation system that is so vitally important to the economies of Canada and the United States.

I have begun traveling across the region and meeting the leadership teams of our partners and customers as well as our elected representatives and other involved stakeholders. My very first engagement was with Administrator Adam Tindall-Schlicht and his Deputy Administrator, Tony Fisher. Two hours after my Change of Command, we met aboard the flagship of the Coast Guard fleet, the *USCGC Mackinaw (WLBB-30)* which was visiting Cleveland. During the tour of the cutter, we discussed areas of mutual concern and identified several opportunities to discuss further in our shared pursuit of facilitating commerce on the Great Lakes Seaway System while simultaneously ensuring the protection of the largest source of fresh water on the planet.

In addition to our solid relationship with the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation and other waterways managers like the Army Corps of Engineers, our robust partnership with Canadian counterparts continues to play a critical role throughout the Great Lakes Seaway System. We regularly engage with the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation, Transport Canada and the Canadian Coast Guard on a wide variety of binational marine safety, pollution response and waterways issues. Of note, our longstanding aids to navigation and icebreaking cooperative agreements with the Canadian Coast Guard results in safe and secure waterways for our domestic and foreign-flag fleets. I will ensure that our collaborative approach continues, and broadens, for the benefit of Seaway stakeholders on both sides of the border.



Over the next two years, I look forward to working with the many professionals who use and support this dynamic Great Lakes and Seaway marine transportation system. On behalf of my Coast Guard Team, we

remain *Semper Paratus*—Always Ready—as your Ninth District 'Guardians of the Great Lakes.' ■ ■ ■

2023 Navigation Season Year-Opening Review

Each Seaway navigation season, there is always a unique “recipe” of cargo “ingredients” that move through the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System. This mixture reflects global market conditions for the import and export materials critical to the economy of the Great Lakes region.

While the fifteen sets of lock gates that comprise the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System may open and close more or less the same number of times each season, which types and volumes of cargo moving through those locks inevitably varies in direct response to global supply and demand.

The past three navigation seasons exemplify how different cargo sectors can see those shifts in their Seaway traffic. 2020, as we know, had previously unseen supply chain impacts in so many ways with many sectors literally shutting down. Yet, despite that, there were sectors that maintained steady traffic flows. Two of those sectors were export grain shipments, which increased year over year, and wind energy cargo which was incredibly strong systemwide including a record-setting season at the Port of Duluth-Superior.



The movement of Canadian grain out of the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System has started off strong with plenty of inventory from the Fall 2022 harvest.

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In the 2021 season, both grain and wind project cargo receded slightly while steel cargo increased, the direct result of the manufacturing and automotive sectors rebounding. In looking over the final numbers from 2022, containerized shipments increased significantly over prior years, and US grain exports showed strength, especially soybean and corn exports.

As we begin the 2023 Seaway navigation season, there are some early trends to follow. The movement of Canadian grain out of the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System has started off strong with plenty of inventory from the Fall 2022 harvest. Of all the factors that influence Seaway cargo traffic flows, none will have a more positive impact than this export lane.

So far in 2023, we also see a slower flow of steel movements into the System with the exception of slabs. There have also been fewer wind energy project cargo shipments with fewer scheduled. This sector is focused on installing the wind farm materials delivered last year at the various sites and finalizing new projects in the pipeline so equipment can be manufactured. While 2023 may be quieter in Seaway movements, the good news is that the wind energy sector is simply reloading its supply chain with strong Great Lakes project activity forecast for both the 2024 and 2025 Seaway seasons.

If the System's foundation of "steel in" and "grain out" transits continue tilting in favor of the grain export activity this season, strength in other commodity sectors will need to emerge to maintain the Seaway traffic levels we saw in the 2022 season.

There is always an element of mystery in predicting what Seaway vessel activity will look like at navigation season end, and that process is only more complicated when new external forces emerge globally like they have the past several years. What we can say about the 2023 navigation season is that the Seaway locks will once again be handling another unique mixture of cargo, safely and reliably. ■■■

Introducing New GLS Deputy Administrator



Anthony Fisher.

Recently, I was asked to summarize my observations after serving 90 days as the GLS Deputy Administrator. It has been aspects of the unique regional culture that I find to be the most fascinating.

The phrase known to me that best exemplifies the prevalent work culture of the Great Lakes and Seaway shipping community is one that I learned at the inception of my maritime career. In 1995, as a student at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, I was taught the motto, *Acta Non Verba* (i.e., Deeds Not Words). It is immediately obvious to me that the conditions on the Great Lakes and Seaway bred an ethos that favors demonstrable results.

Consequently, I approach this role with a layered set of objectives purposed with ensuring effective lock and waterway operations while concurrently developing trade opportunities across the Great Lakes.

My initial objective was to gain a better understanding of our lock operations and the regional freight market. Thankfully, I had some very smart people to learn from, including Administrator Tindall-Schlicht, and the tremendous GLS workforce in DC and Massena. Moreover, I've found the maritime industry on the Great Lakes and Seaway to be readily willing to share knowledge and information—which again is indicative of a culture that favors collaboration. Simply put, folks across the Great Lakes help one another, and I'm grateful for that.

I'm also exploring avenues toward enhancing the flow of cargo into and throughout the Great Lakes. The recent supply chain crisis clearly defined the elastic limit of our nation's traditional trade corridors. Accordingly, new shipping corridors must be established as conduits between buyers and sellers to ensure U.S. trade competitiveness and resistance to economic shock. Taken within the context of our shared *Green Shipping Corridor Network Initiative*, I believe the opportunity exists for shippers to optimize supply chains and reduce their environmental footprint by leveraging the Seaway System into the nation's interior economic and agricultural hubs.

Lastly, on a personal note, I've enjoyed forging new friendships with our Canadian partners, and particularly the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation. Together, we'll look to leverage a culture rooted in partnerships and valuing results to provide for a safe and efficient Seaway into the foreseeable future. ■■■

Introducing New GLS Executive Officer



Sylvonica Madlock.

In the first 90 days of my tenure as Executive Officer (Chief of Staff) for the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Corporation (GLS) I have hit the ground running. This unique and fulfilling experience has been an informative whirlwind.

In this short time, I have had an opportunity to visit the U.S. locks during both the winter maintenance and shipping season periods. The

highlights of which were seeing a vessel transit through the locks firsthand and touring the GLS's new tugboat, *Seaway Trident*.

I am so impressed with the hardworking and dedicated workforce that makes the Seaway run and am committed to supporting them in every way possible. My first priority has been building strong relationships with all GLS employees. I believe that human and labor relations are the cornerstone of any successful organization, and I am committed to maintaining a positive and inclusive work environment for everyone.

I will also make stakeholder management a top priority, focusing on building strong relationships with customers, partners, and vendors. At the Green Shipping Corridor Network forum in Chicago in April, I met with and listened to several key stakeholders to gain a better understanding of their current needs and concerns. I will work to ensure that the GLS continues to meet stakeholder expectations, maintain relationships, and continue effective partnerships. As such, I will work to preserve and continue building strong relationships that will help us grow and succeed in the future.

Finally, I am committed to promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) across the organization and have been working closely with Julie Kuenzler, GLS Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Manager, and Tammy Finnegan, Human Resources Director, to develop initiatives that will promote diversity and inclusion in all aspects of GLS operations. DEIA is not only the right thing to do, it is critical to our success as an organization. We will continue to ensure that everyone feels valued and included.

I am extremely excited about the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead, and I am confident that this executive team, of which I am so proud to be a part of, will maintain a strong focus on human and labor relations, stakeholder management, and overall business operations. The GLS and the Seaway overall will continue to thrive and grow in the years to come. ■■■

Transportation Go!



The GLS sponsored, attended, and exhibited at the Soya and Specialty Grains Alliance's Transportation Go! Conference in Omaha, Nebraska on March 15-16, 2023. The GLS efforts as a member of SSGA have been to heighten the awareness and visibility of the Great Lakes St Lawrence Seaway System and spotlight the maritime export lane it provides for U.S. soy products.

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At this year's conference, the GLS was able to amplify that awareness and visibility as a featured speaker. The presentation to attendees focused on the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway's maritime supply chain with updates on the investments being made in agricultural export facilities within the System. It showcased the Great Lakes export ports, their multimodal capabilities, capacity, and connectivity in both bulk and containerized lanes to the growers, carriers, and shippers in attendance.

During the conference, the GLS engaged with growers throughout the Great Lakes region. Some of these discussions resulted in the GLS becoming a conduit to connect these growers and shippers to Great Lakes ports to further explore export cargo opportunities, both bulk and containerized.

The conference provided synergistic networking between several of the GLS' agricultural-focused membership groups. In addition to the host, SSGA, the GLS was able to engage directly with U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC), the U.S. Grains Council, the U.S. Wheat Associates, and the Soy Transportation Coalition on efforts to increase U.S. agricultural exports through the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System. The GLS also took the opportunity to discuss with the SSGA the possibility of having a Great Lakes port city host the 2024 Transportation Go! Conference – an idea that was very well received! ■■■

1st Collaborative Forum on Green Shipping Successful



GREAT LAKES
ST. LAWRENCE
SEAWAY SYSTEM

The GLS – in partnership with USDOT and Canadian Seaway colleagues – organized and hosted the first ever Collaborative Forum in Chicago to establish a Green Shipping Corridor Network (GSCN) on the Great Lakes. Nearly 100 individuals attended the Forum, as the GSCN seeks to identify availability of alternative and biofuels for Seaway vessels, to address decarbonization

in the maritime context, to inventory landside infrastructure investment, and to enhance cargo flows and supply chain optimization throughout the Seaway.

The GSCN has the potential to be a game-changer in this history of Seaway shipping, and immediate feedback has been overwhelmingly supportive. An official report from the 1st Collaborative Forum is available [here](#). Individuals interested in participating in a GSCN Working Group should contact the GLS via email at gls@dot.gov. ■■■

GLS Germany Trade Mission

The Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (GLS) conducted a trade mission to Munich, Nürnberg and Dusseldorf, Germany, May 8-17, 2023. The mission provided the opportunity for the GLS and its delegation members to increase the awareness of the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System as an efficient maritime supply chain, that provides shippers and freight forwarders with a direct route to the heartland of North America. The GLS also partnered with the Port of Antwerp-Bruges (PoAB) to highlight available capacity on two pre-existing maritime shipping services that support the transportation of containerized and breakbulk cargo between Belgium and the Great Lakes Seaway System.

As the leader of the GLS Trade Mission, Administrator Adam-Tindall-Schlicht hosted the Seaway delegation during industry meetings and port/terminal tours. Delegation members included the ports/terminal operators from Monroe, Mich. and Duluth/Superior, Minn. that represented port authorities and terminal operators. Meetings focused primarily on growing international cargo trade and are a part of the GLS's Trade and Economic Development Strategic Plan.



Upon arriving in Munich, the GLS attended the [Transport Logistics Fair](#), considered the leading platform for international networking in the logistics industry, from May 9-12, 2023. This event provided GLS with direct access to European maritime shippers who have the potential to use the Seaway System. The Port of Antwerp-Bruges invited the Seaway delegation to collaborate in their booth during the convention.



On Saturday, May 13, 2023, the delegation traveled from Munich to Nürnberg to take a tour of [Bayernhafen](#), a freight and transport and logistics center that connects road, rail, and inland waterway to international markets. The delegation then traveled to Dusseldorf for the remainder of the trip. On Monday,

May 15, 2023, the delegation conducted economic development meetings with officials from Duisport and terminal operator Haeger & Schmidt Logistics and observed various cargo-handling operations throughout the port.



On Tuesday morning, May 16, 2023, the delegation toured the HGK Logistics breakbulk terminal on the banks of the Rhine River north of Dusseldorf to see the tri-modal connectivity offered to customers importing into, and exporting from, the region. That evening, the GLS and the PoAB hosted an information seminar in Dusseldorf with transportation logistics providers including terminal operators, freight forwarders, and shippers. Presentations were given by the GLS, PoAB, and Ports of Monroe, Mich. and Duluth, Minn. that focused on the opportunity to avoid trans-shipment on the US east coast and bring cargo directly into the heartland of North America. Also highlighted was the ability to utilize two maritime services that currently exist between Belgium and the Great Lakes.

In summary, this trade mission established valuable relationships between Great Lakes stakeholders and critical German port and logistics contacts in the Hinterlands. These relationships can now be leveraged and built upon to increase trade into, and out of, the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System. ■ ■ ■

2022 Pacesetter Awards Announced for U.S. Ports

Nine U.S. ports in the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System earned the GLS's Robert J. Lewis Pacesetter Award for registering increases in international tonnage shipped through their ports during the 2022 navigation season. The GLS annually recognizes U.S. Great Lakes ports that increase international tonnage shipped through the St. Lawrence Seaway compared to the previous year. Since the award was first issued in 1992, the GLS has distributed over 170 Pacesetter Awards to different U.S. ports in the Great Lakes Seaway System. The nine recipients of the Pacesetter Award for 2022 are **Port of Buffalo (N.Y.); Port of Chicago (Ill.); Port of Cleveland (Ohio); Port of Manitowoc, (Wis.); Port Milwaukee (Wis.); Port of Monroe (Mich.); Port of Oswego (N.Y.); Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority (N.Y.); and Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority (Ohio)**. The Pacesetter Award name was officially changed in 2001 to posthumously honor the noteworthy career of former GLS Logistics Director Robert J. Lewis, who was instrumental in developing and implementing the GLS's trade development program. The award serves to raise awareness among the wider community about how important ports are as assets to the local, regional, and national economy. Great Lakes ports are working harder than ever to handle more commerce safely and efficiently. ■ ■ ■

Promoting Great Lakes Cruising at Seatrade Cruise Global



27-30 March 2023
Broward County Convention Center,
Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA

A delegation from the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System made another big splash as a destination for cruise ships at the world's largest gathering of industry representatives. This also marked the 23rd consecutive year of participation from the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (GLS), Great Lakes Cruising Coalition (GLCC) and the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC). Having a presence at this annual event is key to Seaway marketing efforts, as

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Seatrade Cruise Global continues to be the leading business-to-business event where exhibitors from around the world can discuss their product directly with cruise lines representatives.



Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System delegation at the 2023 Seatrade Cruise Global conference in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Administrator Adam Tindall-Schlicht led a 13-member delegation that represented ports, port city tourism entities, shipping agents, and shore excursion providers.

Each member had numerous opportunities to

discuss their specific interest and highlight the many reasons why cruising in the Great Lakes has grown over the past couple of years. Representing the Great Lakes were Dan Hartman, Duluth Entertainment Convention Center; Theresa Nemetz and Amanda Reitz, Great Lakes Shore Excursions; Maria Cartier, Port Milwaukee; Julie Gerczak, Discover Green Bay; Paul Pepe, Tourism Thunder Bay; Aaron Bensinger, Central Marine; Colin Conrad, FK Warren; Dan Karageorge, McLean Kennedy Inc.; Peter Burgess, SLSMC; Rebecca Yackley and Jazmine Jurkiewicz, GLS.

Additional exposure to raise awareness of the Great Lakes as a cruising destination was secured through placements in key trade publications and industry websites: *Seatrade Cruise Review*, *Cruise & Ferry*, *Cruise Industry News*, and *Maritime Executive*.

The GLS also leveraged the Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) membership to sponsor at the CLIA Diamond Executive Partners Lunch and Networking event, where Administrator Tindall-Schlicht presented on the many destinations for cruise lines to visit while cruising the Great Lakes. Additional benefits of the sponsorship included an interview through the CLIA Currents Live broadcast, display of the Great Lakes cruising video at the CLIA booth, and GLCC branded giveaway that was offered to cruise line executives during the CLIA board meeting.

The international cruise community returns to Miami, Fla. with Seatrade Cruise Global scheduled for April 8-11, 2024. ■ ■ ■



During the CLIA Diamond Executive Partners Lunch and Networking event, GLS Administrator Tindall-Schlicht presented on the many destinations for cruise lines to visit while cruising the Great Lakes.



A robust public relations campaign to raise awareness of the Great Lakes as a cruising destination was secured through placements in key trade publications.

FHWA Announces New Truck Emissions Grant Program for Ports



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

The Federal Highway Administration opened applications for the first round the new Reduction of Truck Emissions at Port Facilities Grant Program. The program, authorized under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that focuses on port electrification and efficiency improvements, is making available \$160 million for this first round.

“When truckers spend hours idling at ports, it costs them time, takes money out of their pockets, and pollutes the air in nearby communities,” U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said. “The investments we are announcing today will save truck drivers time and money, help ports reduce congestion and emissions, and deliver better air quality for workers and communities alike.”



The funding will focus on projects that reduce emissions from idling trucks at our nation's ports, which negatively impacts air quality for surrounding communities, including small children, truck drivers, and port workers. The program complements the Maritime Administration's (MARAD) [Port Infrastructure Development Program \(PIDP\)](#), and is part of the [Justice40 Initiative](#).

FHWA ANNOUNCES NEW TRUCK EMISSIONS GRANT PROGRAM FOR PORTS
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Eligible project activities include: the development of port-related infrastructure that reduces emissions from port-related truck idling; on-truck technologies that reduce emissions from port-related truck idling; the use of zero or low emissions powertrains or fuels on trucks; reducing truck congestion within or adjacent to ports, including through enhanced intermodal rail connections; and reducing port-related emissions from idling trucks, including through port electrification and improving the efficiency of port operations.

The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023 is available [here](#). Applications are due by July 26. ■■■

Germany: Fall initiative Cruising & Cargo

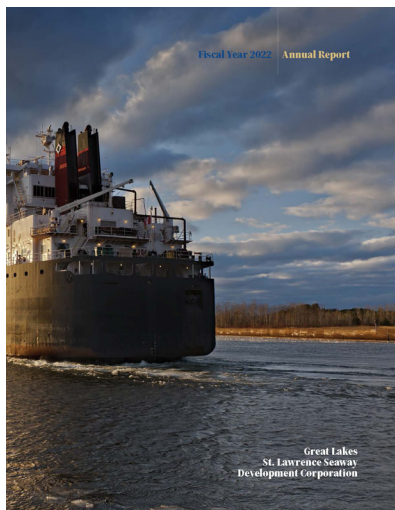
Beginning September 6-13, 2023, the Hamburg, Bremen & Brake, Germany Trade Mission will focus on two distinct objectives, increasing tourism and maritime trade throughout the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System.



Phase I: The GLS/SLSMC trade development teams led by Administrator Adam Tindall-Schlicht will travel to Hamburg, Germany, September 6-8, 2023 and host an informational booth at Seatrade Europe. This marks the first time attending this event where stakeholders can promote the Great Lakes as a destination to cruise ship owners, operators, and itinerary planners. There will also be coordinated marketing efforts with established partners, the Great Lakes Cruising Coalition, Cruise Lines International Association, *Seatrade Cruise Review*, and Cruise the St. Lawrence Association.

Phase II: The GLS/SLSMC kicks off the second phase of the Trade Mission, where the focus turns to the cargo sector. Commencing on Friday, September 9, 2023 and concluding the following week, September 13, 2023, there will be an itinerary of scheduled maritime trade related meetings in Hamburg, Bremen, and Brake. An information seminar/reception is also in the planning stages. The target audience for phase II events will be maritime industry representatives, to include shippers, carriers, and freight forwarders. The GLS will also take this opportunity to reconnect with maritime representatives met during the outreach initiative in Western Germany during the May 2023 visit. ■■■

GLS FY 2022 Annual Report Released



In May 2023, the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development (GLS) presented its 59th consecutive unmodified audit opinion, dating back to its first financial audit in 1955. This annual management report and financial audit of the GLS is for the Fiscal Year (FY) ending September 30, 2022 and highlights several major projects completed to rehabilitate and modernize lock infrastructure including construction of the new 7,500-square-foot Seaway Visitor Center that will feature memorabilia, informational displays, and an observation deck where visitors can watch commercial vessels as they transit Eisenhower Lock. Construction of the new Center is progressing and is scheduled to be completed by late 2023.

Read the entire Report here: bit.ly/FiscalYear2022AnnualReport. ■■■

USDOT Launches Additional Grant Navigation Tools



The US Department of Transportation has recently updated the DOT Navigator (<https://www.transportation.gov/dot-navigator>) with a Discretionary Grants Dashboard (<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/dashboard>) to help communities understand the best ways to apply for grants and to plan for and deliver transformative infrastructure projects and services.

The DOT Discretionary Grants Dashboard provides communities with an overview of discretionary grant opportunities that can help meet their transportation infrastructure needs. The Dashboard provides an easily accessible database that can be sorted by transportation type, such as *maritime*, *eligible activity*, *eligible applicant*, or *keyword*.

Designed with all communities in mind, the Dashboard specifically identifies grant programs with rural and Tribal set-asides or match waivers available. It also includes Federal grant programs outside of DOT, such as Department of Homeland Security, Department of Labor, Department of Commerce, and the US Environmental Protection Agency.

Additionally, the website provides a host of information on the USDOT grant process as well as links to technical assistance resources and local transportation contacts. ■■■

Spring Commissioning of Nav-Aids



Seaway Guardian tug with hoses.

On December 18, 2022, as the *Seaway Guardian* made her debut buoy run pushing the Buoy Barge upriver to commence the 2022 decommissioning of US Aids-to-Navigation in the Seaway, she suffered a port main engine shut down due to a mechanical failure.

Months later, the GLS is continuing efforts to bring the *Guardian* back online. With the tug still out of commission for the opening of the 2023 navigation season, the GLS was again faced with the challenge of locating assets to assist in the commissioning of its buoys.

The GLS requested assistance from the United States Coast Guard's (USCG) 9th District, and with short notice, the D9 Command made the generous decision to send the USCGC *Hollyhock* to assist the GLS and complete the Aids-to-Navigation

commissioning schedule. Simultaneously, the GLS called on the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) for assistance with the US Aids below Snell lock.

In coordination with the GLS' Lock Operations and Marine Services teams, the USCG and CGC personnel successfully developed a plan to complete the buoy commissioning in a timely and efficient manner. All involved were exceptionally professional and worked in total partnership to complete this mission-critical activity, which was crucial to ensuring a successful 2023 Seaway navigation season opening.

Multiple agencies working together and across borders to successfully complete this mission speaks volumes about a shared spirit of cooperation and coordination on the Great Lakes Seaway System. ■■■



Canada

JOC Breakbulk



On April 19-21, 2023, the GLS Office of Trade & Economic Development attended the JOC Breakbulk conference to network with international maritime transportation professionals and attend presentations on the current state of maritime commerce in the breakbulk sector. The most pressing challenges affecting breakbulk and project cargo shippers globally, and in North America specifically, were explored by subject matter experts alongside industry members. JOC Breakbulk also serves as a platform for essential networking and relationship-building within the project and breakbulk logistics supply chain, including shippers, carriers, forwarders, land transport providers, technology providers, ports, terminals, railroads, and others who participate in this market. ■ ■ ■

Introducing New Visitor Center and Community Relations Manager



Amy Stark.

As the new Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation's Visitor Center and Community Relations Manager, I envision a future that embraces and celebrates the Seaway's legacy while showcasing its rich history, significance, and potential.

I am determined to create an inclusive space within the Visitor Center that showcases the Seaway's importance while providing valuable educational resources. Embracing technology, innovative exhibits, and community engagement, I intend to ensure the new Seaway Visitor Center is a gateway

to understanding the Seaway's vital role in the region's economy, history, and environment. Through strategic outreach and partnerships, I will seek to draw locals and tourists to experience the Seaway firsthand.

My vision extends beyond the Visitor Center as I aim to build strong relationships with local schools, colleges, businesses, and community organizations, to help make the Seaway a vibrant hub for the North Country in Upstate New York.

The construction of the new Seaway Visitor Center is on track for completion towards the end of 2023, with plans to open its doors in the spring of 2024. ■ ■ ■



Construction of the new Seaway Visitor Center is progressing on schedule, and the facility is expected to open in spring, 2024.

Seaway Trident Update

After an extended build period through the worst of the Covid-19 pandemic, the *Seaway Trident* finally made its way from the Washburn & Doughty Shipyard in East Boothbay, Maine to the GLS's marine facility in Massena, NY.



At 60 feet in length, the Seaway Trident is right-sized for maneuvering inside lock chambers, with a wide 28-foot beam to improve performance in ice and enhance stability for deck crane operations.

The contract between the GLS and the Washburn & Doughty Shipyard was signed on January 20, 2020, and the keel laid on April 4, 2021. Following Covid shutdowns and supply chain issues, the *Seaway Trident* began its journey home to Massena on April 27, 2023. The weather cooperated; the trip was smooth; and with a shorter delivery time than expected, the *Trident* arrived in Massena in the late afternoon of May 3, 2023.

The GLS's newest HT-60 harbor tugboat will carry out a variety of maintenance duties on the U.S. portion of the St. Lawrence Seaway, including routine maintenance of lock gates, maintenance of aids to navigation, emergency response, and removal of accumulated ice from lock walls.



Seaway Trident.

The GLS is thrilled to have the *Seaway Trident* as the newest member of its fleet. ■ ■ ■

GSA Develops Map of Federal Infrastructure Projects



The General Services Administration's Data to Decisions program has built a visual tool to show where funds from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) are being invested across the country. The map provides data points showing Announced and Select Awarded BIL funding locations and can be searched by Funding Agency, Program Name, State/Territory, or type of funding. The tool also provides State Level Summaries as of April 20, 2023. GSA will update the data monthly. The tool can be found here: <https://d2d.gsa.gov/report/bipartisan-infrastructure-law-bil-maps-dashboard>

According to the State Level Summaries, the Great Lakes Region has received \$51.3 billion from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, primarily in Transportation funding since it was enacted in November 2021. ■ ■ ■

Save the Date

July 11-13



U.S. Wheat Associates 2023 Summer Board Meeting

Minneapolis, Minn.

Info: <https://www.uswheat.org/meetings/2023-usw-summer-board-meeting/>

July 27-28



American Great Lakes Ports Association 2023 Annual Meeting

Chicago, Ill.

Info: <https://www.greatlakesports.org/2023-annual-conference/>

Save the Date

September 6-8

Seatrade
europe

Seatrade Europe

Hamburg, Germany

Info: <https://www.seatrade-europe.com/>

September 26-28

 **BREAKBULK**
AMERICAS

Breakbulk Americas

Houston, Texas

Info: <https://americas.breakbulk.com/Home>

October 13-15

GREAT LAKES
ST. LAWRENCE
GOVERNORS
& PREMIERS 

**Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers
Leadership Summit**

Cleveland, Ohio

Info: <https://gsgp.org>

October 17-19



Hwy H2O Conference

Toronto, Ont.

Info: <https://hwyh2o.com/home/>

November 28-30

ANTWERP XL

Antwerp XL

Antwerp, Belgium

Info: <https://www.antwerpxl.com/>