Intermodal Cargo

(Continued from Page 4)

particularly important because delays can result in astronomical costs. Twenty-four steamship lines call at Barbours Cut Terminal. They serve most major trade lanes: Australia/New Zealand, Central America/the Caribbean, Northern Europe, the Far East, the Mediterranean/Black Sea, Southeast Asia, South America and Africa. Barbours Cut Terminal has an average ship turnaround time of less than 12 hours and averages 30 container moves per gang hour.

Several recent projects at Barbours Cut have been instrumental in expediting vessel traffic. A fifth container berth was put into service at Barbours Cut in 1994, and a sixth berth already is under construction. The Port Authority purchased two post-Panamax wharf cranes for Berth 5, bringing the total number of wharf cranes to 10. And last year, the terminal accepted delivery of eight new yard cranes, bringing the total yard fleet to 20 cranes.

Vessel Sharing

Ocean carriers constantly make adjustments to provide efficient, uninterrupted service. The current trend is toward joint services and slot-charter agreements. Such agreements are being used more frequently than ever to provide better service and contain costs. Carriers also are consolidating ports of call, leading to the evolution of load centers.

"Intermodalism played a major role in the development of vessel-sharing arrangements, and vessel-sharing in turn has given momentum to the development of the load center concept," says Horan. "Eventually we will see the development of about five load centers in this country. Houston is emerging as the load center for the Gulf. Providing strong rail, truck and water access is central to intermodalism, and it is critical if we are to maintain a strong position in this constantly changing market."
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New Maersk LPG Carrier Calls Port of Houston

The LPG HENRIETTE MAERSK recently called at the Port of Houston Authority's Barbours Cut Container Terminal while on her maiden voyage. The vessel, a liquefied petroleum gas carrier, tied up at the Barbours Cut LASH dock while her tanks were being purged. Shown during a plaque presentation aboard the vessel are (from left) John Etta, PHA; Capt. Elias Egholm, vessel master; and Art Bowen, Maersk Inc. The HENRIETTE MAERSK has a summer deadweight measurement of 23,500 tons and can carry as many as four grades of liquefied petroleum gas in segregated tanks. Two of the grades can be cooled simultaneously.

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Houston Super Show Set for March 27-29

The Trilateral Conference of Chambers of Commerce of North America and Houston's annual Super Show Exposition will be held concurrently March 27-29 at the George R. Brown Convention Center. The Trilateral Conference, now in its fourth year, was established to help foster business, trade and investment opportunities throughout Canada, the United States and Mexico. The conference is sponsored by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and CONCANCO and CONCAMIN, both Mexican business organizations.

Companies participating in the Trilateral Conference may choose to participate in person-to-person meetings arranged for companies to explore trade opportunities with interested businesses. These meetings will be arranged in advance.

Registration Information

The Super Show, now in its sixth year, provides international firms and local businesses a venue for meeting qualified purchasers, displaying and demonstrating products and services and developing business contacts. Exhibitors typically include businesses involved in banking, telecommunications, computer technology, oil and gas and professional services. Companies should arrange for exhibit space in advance.

For registration information on the Trilateral Conference, call (800) 866-2382. To register or reserve exhibit space for the Super Show, phone (713) 651-2271.

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Apple Shipment Moves Via Houston

An apple a day keeps the doctor away. —Traditional Saying

Enough apples moved through the refrigerated facility at Houston’s Jacintoport Terminal recently to keep a lot of doctors away for a very long time.

More than 240 48-foot trucks and 40 40-foot containers were needed to hold the apples and apple powder loaded aboard the M/V CARIBBEAN MERMAID in late November. All told, the sweet cargo occupied 660,000 cubic feet of reefer space on the vessel.

“This is a first of its kind in the United States,” said Ernie Gonsoulin, manager of Lusk Shipping Co., the firm that arranged and managed the shipment. Lusk usually specializes in Caterpillar exports and imports.

Refrigerated Warehouse

Harborside Refrigerated Services stored the apples as they arrived from Arizona and Washington and packed the trucks and containers. Located at Jacintoport Terminal, Harborside has 200,000 square feet of temperature and humidity controlled storage and a sophisticated, computerized handling system geared for large shipments of agricultural commodities.

The bulk of the shipment consisted of Granny Smith apples supplied by Arizona Apple Orchards of Phoenix, Arizona. The same company also provided the 15 containers of apple powder produced by their dehydration plant in Wilcox, Arizona. Red Delicious apples from Broyte Orchards of Prescott, Washington, were also included. Most of the shipment will be processed in Egypt and will ultimately be used by humanitarian relief organizations.

Annual Event

“This type of operation is scheduled to be an annual occurrence and is a classic example of export commerce benefiting the United States and the countries to which its products are exported,” said Gonsoulin.

For further information, contact Gonsoulin at (713) 999-4400; Bill Leshe at Harborside, (713) 452-2614; or Mike Malin of Arizona Apple Orchards at (602) 995-8890.

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ACL Reports Improved Financial Results

Atlantic Container Line (ACL) finished the third quarter of 1994 with a dramatic improvement in the company’s financial results. The Swedish company announced the results during a shareholders meeting in Gothenburg, during which a new board of directors was elected.

ACL’s profit before tax for the first nine months of 1994 totaled 27 million Swedish crowns (MSEK), compared to a loss of MSEK 140 for the same period in 1993. The net financial results include a currency exchange loss of MSEK 18. The financial turnaround was due to an improved mix of cargo, freight rate increases, improved equipment balance and continued progress in operational rationalization.

 Newly elected directors to the ACL board are: Peter Carlsson, chief executive officer (CEO) of Transmark; Hakan Larsson, CEO of Bilspedition; Christer Olsson, CEO of Wallenius; Olav Rakkenes, Chairman and CEO of ACL; Bernhard Ryding, President of ACL; Jon-Aksel Tøgersen, CEO of Astrup Fearnley.

Market Improvements

During the meeting, Rakkenes told shareholders that all developments are going according to plans. Markets for container and RO/RO cargo have firm up, allowing ACL to continue its program of upgrading its cargo selections. The company has been containing costs due to an increased percentage of round-trip container moves.

The Transatlantic Conference Agreement, which has jurisdiction over about half of ACL’s cargo, is still under regulatory review in Brussels and Washington, Rakkenes said. However, a ruling was not expected until sometime in 1995. Rate levels on the North Atlantic remained quite stable during the year, he added, and were expected to remain so.

CAMAC Transfers ITS to New London

CAMAC Holdings Inc. recently completed its sale of International Tool & Supply Co. Inc. (ITS) to New London plc, a diversified energy group engaged in oil field services.

CAMAC finalized the sale for an initial consideration of US$5,750,000 in cash, 20 million ordinary shares of stock in New London plc and future consideration of other cash and/or stock.

All Three Lines

The sales includes all three of ITS’ business lines: Supply and Procurement, representing more than 2,000 oil field products and services contracts to major oil field operators; Engineered Products, which designs and manufactures steam generators and water and oil treatment systems; and Environmental Products, a supplier of products designed for the containment of oil spills.
Crane #2
(Continued from Page 11)
operators," he continued. "Our goal here is to exceed their expectations, whether the project is a minor repair or a major crane modernization."

Kranco 21 is the newest member of the KONE Americas worldwide group of crane companies, owned by Scandinavian investment group Industri Kapital. Specializing in crane modernization engineering, Kranco 21’s resources include an on-site machine shop in Houston and manufacturing facilities in Houston and Cleveland, Ohio. The firm serves a nationwide roster of clients in the ports, pulp and paper, steel, heavy manufacturing, solid waste, construction, rail, utility, mining, automotive and petrochemical industries.

PORT DATA
Fentress Bracewell Barbours Cut Container Terminal has five 1,000-foot-long container berths; a RO/RO platform; and a 282-foot-long, U-shaped LASH dock.

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Russian Texas Shipping Opens Office in Houston

Russian Texas Shipping Corp. (RTS), a joint venture with Russian and American principals, has opened an office at 1011 Highway 6 South, Suite 304, Houston, Texas 77077.

RTS specializes in the shipping of project cargo and oil field equipment from the United States and Europe to all points in Russia and the C.I.S. Through bills of lading will be offered from point of origin to destination.

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At the ocean terminals in Tallinn or St. Petersburg, RTS security and intermodal personnel will take charge of cargo and handle all inland transportation. RTS also handles all customs documents and clearances for their customers.

Serguei Sokolov is president of the new venture. Martin Faubion is vice president. The telephone number is (713) 556-1787, and the fax number is (713) 531-7877.

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Newest "Mercy Ship" Makes Haiti Relief Run from Houston

The newest member of the Texas-based Mercy Ships' charity fleet sailed from Houston recently with food and medical supplies for Haiti. The CARIBBEAN MERCY filled her cargo holds at the Port of Houston Authority's Turning Basin Terminal. The cargo was provided by Walking Faith Ministries, a non-denominational Houston organization which supplies church groups working in Haiti. The vessel is a 2,200-ton former Norwegian ferry, and is one of four ships operated by Mercy Ships. For more information, please contact Mercy Ships, P.O. Box 2020, Lindale, Texas 75771-2020, or call (903) 963-8341.

Venezuelan Executives Tour Port of Houston

A delegation from Venezuela to the Port of Houston recently included Alfredo Viso, president of Bariven S.A.; Johann Litwinenko, CEO of PDVSA Services; and Simon Diaz, a director of Maraven. George Williamson, PHA's managing director, and Daniel Marrero, Trade Development director, briefed the visitors at PHA's executive offices before taking them on a boat tour of PHA facilities. Shown (from left) are Marrero; Gilberto Morillo, PDVSA; Robert Nilo, PDVSA; Litwinenko; Williamson; Diaz; Viso; and Eudoro Iturbe, PDVSA.
Port of Houston Authority Entertains Local Consular Corps

Houston has one of the largest consular corps in the United States, and the Port of Houston Authority hosts a reception each year for the representatives of other nations who are stationed in the city. The 1994 Consular Reception was held at the Petroleum Club.

Left: Dr. Otmar Kolber, honorary consul general of Austria, visits with Ned Holmes, chairman of the Port Commission, near an ice sculpture of the Port Authority seal.

Right: Shown (from left) during the evening are Jim Cook of the U.S. Department of Commerce, Cynthia Lewis and Port Commissioner Robert Gillette.

Below: The traditional opening ceremony featured speakers representing local government and the consular corps. Shown (from left) are Judge Jon Lindsay, Harris County Commissioners Court; City Councilman John Kelly; Holmes; and Ahmed Gomaa, consul general of Egypt and dean of the Houston Consular Corps.
Above: John Horan, PHA’s operations director (right), visits with R. Leonard Glass III of the Houston Pilots and Deborah Glass.

Right: Shown (from left) are Ted Thorjussen, West Gulf Maritime Association; Capt. Tom Gibson, Houston Pilots; and Gloria Demers.

Below: A traditional Christmas tree and “toyland town” provided a holiday atmosphere for the reception.
Chilean Line Vessel Calls at Houston While on Maiden Voyage

The MV EIFFEL called recently at the Port of Houston Authority's Turning Basin Terminal. The vessel is operated by Chilean Line Inc. and was represented by Strachan Shipping Co. of Houston. Shown during a maiden voyage plaque presentation are (from left) Sergio Munoz, Chilean Line; Capt. Jean Leroy, vessel master; Rainer Lilienthal, PHA; and Jack Williams and Jim Zirkle, both of Strachan Shipping Co.

M/T ANDREA Makes Maiden Call at Port of Houston

The M/T ANDREA, under time charter to Byystad Shipping, recently called at the Port of Houston for the first time. Built in 1993, the vessel is 574 feet in length overall and is rated at 29,815 tons DWT. Shown on the ship's bridge are (from left) Larry Miller, Port of Houston Authority; Capt. Minasyan Minas, vessel master; Port Commissioner Robert Gillette; Eric Denny, R&O Motorship Agencies (Texas) Inc.; and Capt. Spiridione Stella, ABC Maritime AG.
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