New Asia Service: Maersk, MSC Announce TP11 With Double Call in Charleston

The 2M alliance (Maersk & MSC) have released the details of their new flagship Asia/USEC service via the Suez Canal and Charleston will receive the only U.S. double call. The TP11 will feature ships averaging more than 8,000TEU. The Port rotation is Shanghai, Ningbo, Yantian, Singapore, Newark, Norfolk, Savannah, Charleston, Miami, Freeport, Charleston, Singapore, Kaohsiung, Shanghai. Importantly, Charleston is positioned as the export center-of-gravity with transit times to Asia nearly a week faster than competing ports.

G6 Carriers Add Charleston to AX1 North Europe Rotation

A call in Charleston has been added to the AX1 service operated by the G6 carriers (APL, MOL, HMM, Hapag-Lloyd, OOCL, and NYK) plus Hamburg Sud. The addition is an important increase in capacity and frequency for Charleston. The AX1 is comprised of large vessels averaging more than 8,800TEU. Charleston now offers 11 North Europe calls per week. Foreign ports on the AX1 include Le Havre, Rotterdam, Hamburg and Southampton.

Big Ship Trend Favoring Charleston

Ocean carriers have progressively been increasing the size of vessels in their USEC deployments for a number of years, but the recent spate of big ship services indicates we
are entering a new chapter. The above mentioned TP11 and AX1 services, in addition to the New Tango service announced in November, all rely on post-Panamax sized ships to help lower the cost per TEU slot onboard. On January 1, the Port of Charleston will feature 10 calls per week from vessels 5,500 TEU or larger.

**Volume Update**

Up 17%: Strong Container Growth Continues

October 2014 TEU volume at the Port of Charleston grew by 17 percent year over year, continuing a strong growth trend in container traffic well above the organization's financial plan. SCPA handled 164,672 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) in October, up from 141,049 TEUs moved during the same month last year. Fiscal year to date, TEU volumes are up 14 percent and nearly 13 percent ahead of plan.

**Volume Update**

Kiswire Expanding Newberry Operation

Kiswire Inc., a manufacturer of steel cord and bead wire for the tire industry, is commencing the second phase of its Newberry County expansion. This phase, a $30 million investment, will add 170,000 square feet to the current facility and will include additional machines. The facility will convert high carbon steel rod through a process that involves drawing, heat treating, and electro-plating to supply the current building. Kiswire is headquartered in South Korea.

**Foreign Trade Zones**

Two 3PLs Activate Foreign Trade Zone Status

Performance Team and Coastal Logistics Group-SC, LLC recently activated with Customs in FTZ No. 21- Coastal Region, joining existing active 3PL FTZ operators Kontane Logistics, Premier Logistics Solutions and Southern Ammunition. These active 3PL FTZ operators are able to offer customers the benefits of the FTZ programs such as duty deferral/elimination and reduced Customs fees.

Port of Charleston | PO Box 22287 | Charleston | SC | 29413