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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FIRST TIME IN DETROIT'S HISTORY, THREE SHIPS, M/V GOVIKEN, M/V LAKE ONTARIO, M/V FEDERAL OSHIMA, OPEN PORT'S SHIPPING SEASON

Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A. - Yesterday marked an historical first in Detroit's maritime history. On Tuesday, April 15, 2003, the Port of Detroit welcomed not one, but three ocean-going vessels to inaugurate the 2003 shipping season. The *M/V Lake Ontario*, a Marshall Islands- flagged vessel, was officially the first ship that arrived at Detroit Marine Terminal, Inc. (DMT) at 6:30 A.M. At 7:00 A.M., *M/V Goviken*, the Bahamian- flagged ship arrived at DMT. Its arrival was followed by the Hong Kong flagged- vessel, *M/V Federal Oshima* which docked at DSC, Trenton at 8:30 A.M.

"This is the first time in the history of Detroit's Port that three ocean-going ships arrived on the same day, to open the international shipping season. This reflects the dynamics of international waterborne shipping. Many factors can affect the timing of a ship's arrival such as ice and weather conditions, lock delays and delays in discharging cargo at prior stops," said Steven Olinek, deputy director of the Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority (DWCPA).

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Only Tuesday, the three ships were greeted by port staff including Mr. Olinek and John Stoker, the DWCPA's Chief Financial Officer. The coveted J. L. Hudson Trophy will be presented to World Shipping, the agent for all three ships.

The *M/V Lake Ontario* set sail on March 20, 2003, from Antwerp, Belgium with a cargo of steel products, under the command of Captain Marec Stachyra. *M/V Lake Ontario* is 730 feet long with a 76 foot beam. Its home port is Majuro, Marshall Islands.

On March 29, 2003, the *M/V Goviken* set sail from Antwerp, Belgium, also with a cargo of steel products, under the command of Captain Romulo A. Cena. *M/V Goviken* is 730 feet long with a 76 foot beam. Nassau, Bahamas is its home port.

The *M/V Federal Oshima* set sail on April 13, 2003 from Hamilton, Ontario in ballast (empty), under the command of Captain V.S. Chheteri. The *M/V Federal Oshima* is 656 feet long with a 78 foot beam. Hong Kong is its home port.

This year's official port opening was celebrated on Wednesday, April, 9, 2003 with a joint luncheon of the Detroit Propellor Club and the DWCPA.

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