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May 22, 2003

PORT OF DETROIT CELEBRATES NATIONAL MARITIME DAY, 2003

Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A- Today, the Port of Detroit celebrates the National Maritime Day proclaimed by President George W. Bush on May 21, 2003. According to President Bush “we honor this day the service and proud history of our merchant mariners and also recognize their important contributions in strengthening our economy. Merchant marines and commercial sailors have assisted in the defense of our Nation. We remember the vital role the Merchant Marine has played in past conflicts, during World War II and their vital role in moving the goods that we produce around the United States and throughout the world.” In recognition of the importance of the U.S. Merchant Marine, the Congress, by joint resolution approved on May 20, 1933, as amended, has designated May 22 of each year as “National Maritime Day, “ and has authorized and requested that the President issue an annual proclamation calling for its appropriate observance.

The Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority in conjunction with The Propellor Club will celebrate National Maritime Day at a luncheon at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Belle Isle in Detroit. Steven Olinek, DWCPA’s Deputy Director will present the J.L. Hudson Trophy to World Shipping, for the three foreign flag vessels that arrived in the Port of Detroit. This year marked an historical first in Detroit’s maritime history, three ocean-going vessels, The M/VLake Ontario, M/V Goviken and the M/V Federal Oshima inaugurated the 2003 shipping season.

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