

MEETING MINUTES
STATE OF WASHINGTON ~ BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS
April 12, 2024

CLOSED SESSION

A Closed Session of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair Sheri Tonn in the Rainier Conference Room, 2901 Third Avenue, Seattle, WA and online via Microsoft Teams to discuss matters relative to the 2024 Pilot Exam.

Present In person:

Chair: Sheri Tonn

Vice Chair: Eleanor Kirtley (Marine Environment)

Commissioners: Mike Anthony (Pilot), Richard Firth (Foreign Flag Shipping)

Administration: Jaimie Bever, Bettina Maki, Jolene Hamel

Present via Teams:

Commissioners: Nhi Irwin (Ecology), Jason Hamilton (Public), Tim Farrell (Public),

Sandy Bendixen (Pilot), Andrew Drennen (U.S. Shipping)

Dainis & Company: Paige Fischer, Michael Maurice

REGULAR MEETING – Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners was called to order at 10:35 a.m. by Chair Sheri Tonn in the Rainier Conference Room, 2901 Third Avenue, Seattle, WA and online via Microsoft Teams.

Present In person:

Chair: Sheri Tonn

Vice Chair: Eleanor Kirtley (Marine Environment)

Commissioners: Mike Anthony (Pilot), Richard Firth (Foreign Flag Shipping)

Administration: Jaimie Bever, Bettina Maki, Jolene Hamel

Puget Sound Pilots: Charlie Costanzo, Severin Knutsen, Matt Hannuksela, Blair Bouma

USCG: Laird Hail

The Northwest Seaport Alliance: Lindsay Wolpa

Present via Teams:

Commissioners: Nhi Irwin (Ecology), Jason Hamilton (Public), Tim Farrell (Public), Andrew Drennen (U.S. Shipping), Sandy Bendixen (Pilot)

Pacific Merchant Shipping Association: Mike Moore

Puget Sound Pilots: Travis McGrath, Eric Klapperich, Peter Mann, Bill Sliker, Ken Grieser, Ivan Carlson

USCG: Kira Moody

Port of Grays Harbor: Mike Folkers

Puget Sound Pilot Trainees: George Fleischfresser, Joel Michelson, Harlow Wood

American Waterways Operators: Peter Schrappen

Public: Sheree Carson, Ryan Campbell, Conor Sullivan

Dainis & Company: Paige Fischer, Michael Maurice, Charles Nastos

The Seattle Times: Josh Farley

BPC Staff Report.

- BPC Executive Director Jaimie Bever shared an overview of meetings that she has been involved in since last month including a visit from the Executive Director of the Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots Tom Griffiths, and the Puget Sound Harbor Safety Committee Joint Meeting with Canadian counterpart PACMAR where she was able to share an update on tug escort rulemaking.
- Executive Director Bever also reminded the Commissioners that their annual financial disclosure F-1 forms were due Monday.
- The BPC Pilotage Quarterly Spring Edition was provided to the Board and distributed to the public last week.
- BPC Data Analyst Bettina Maki shared data charts including the new KPI dashboard and was available for questions.

BPC Chair Report.

- Chair Tonn welcomed two pilots who will present at the meeting later in the agenda – Captains Blair Bouma on pilot continuing education and Matt Hannuksela on the Pilot Fall Arrest System (PFAS).

Activity Reports. Lindsay Wolpa representing The Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA), Laird Hail representing the United States Coast Guard (USCG), Ivan Carlson representing Puget Sound Pilots (PSP), Mike Folkers representing the Port of Grays Harbor (PGH), and Mike Moore representing Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA) offered current and projected statistical data as well as updates on current maritime issues and activities.

The BPC was surprised to hear that Laird Hall announced his retirement and that this would likely be his last BPC meeting. The Board, Staff, and public expressed gratitude and well wishes for Laird.

PSP President Ivan Carlson shared that PSP didn't add the trailing 12-month callback job ratio into the activity report as he indicated he would last month. The ratio for the trailing twelve is 12.35%. The number of assignments in same 12 months a year earlier was very similar to the last twelve. However, the callback ratio was 16% indicating efficiency changes over the past year have had a positive impact on the callback job ratio. BPC Data Analyst Bettina Maki was available for any questions on the PSP Dashboard.

Puget Sound pilot Captain Blair Bouma shared the details of the extensive continuing education program that all Puget Sound pilots receive. Once a pilot is licensed, they are required to take three courses during the first year: Manned Model, which has emergency components built into the training, Bridge Resource Management for Pilots (BRMP), which is focused on the team and human element for emergency prevention and response, and simulator training for emergency tug response and ship failures in preparation for newer pilots to start piloting laden tankers. Prior to a pilot obtaining their unlimited license, they attend Azipod training in preparation for piloting cruise ships. Also prior to becoming unlimited, pilots attend ultra large container vessel (UCLV) training. Pilots are required to attend Manned Model training every five years. Recently, the pilots have implemented a 5-year renewal for BRMP.

Washington State Ferries Assistant Secretary Introduction. Recently appointed Washington State Ferries Assistant Secretary Steve Nevey joined the meeting in person to introduce himself, the work he has already accomplished as Director of Operations at WSF, and the work ahead as Assistant Secretary. The BPC is looking forward to working with Steve and is excited for WSF's future.

NEW BUSINESS

Cut Score for the Written Examination: Paige Fischer, Dainis & Co. Associate Psychometrician presented on the psychometric process for developing and evaluating the 2024 Marine Pilot Written Exam. After reviewing the exam data, Dainis & Co. recommended a Written Exam cut score of 70.

Motion: Kirtley/Firth – Adopt the recommendation of 70 as the cut score for the 2024 Marine Pilot Written Exam – Carried.

Determine the Number of Successful Applicants who will advance to the Simulator Evaluation:

Motion: Farrell/Anthony – based on the Written Exam Cut Score of 70, 20 of the 25 applicants will advance to the Simulator Evaluation – Carried.

Scoring information will be posted on the BPC website and sent by e-mail to all applicants by 4:00pm today.

Appoint the Evaluators for the Simulator Evaluation Portion of the Examination. Simulator Evaluations begin Monday, April 22, 2024.

Motion: Farrell/Drennen – appoint Captains Sandy Bendixen, Ryan Leo, and John Scragg as Simulator Evaluation Evaluators with Captain Alec Newman as alternate – Carried with Commissioner Bendixen abstaining.

Simulator Evaluations will begin on Monday, April 22, 2024.

Chair Tonn shared a letter received from Matson in response to BPC's request for information regarding MSOs seen from Matson vessels. While the letter detailed the work they do in Puget Sound, it did not address any of the details of the MSOs. It was suggested that the BPC follow up to Matson in writing and ask for details of the cause and remedy of the MSOs.

Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *DOOLIN RODGERS (ATB VISION)*, 3/09/2024

Underway in Hylebos Waterway, coming alongside Targa	ATB Vision was within a few feet of the berth when <i>DOOLIN RODGERS</i> called to inform of their intentions to pass down <i>ATB VISION</i> 's starboard side and continue outbound through the Hylebos bridge. They were advised of the assist tug's wash. The <i>DOOLIN RODGERS</i> passed through the tug's wash, took a sheer to starboard, and headed towards the vessel. <i>DOOLIN RODGERS</i> was able to regain control and stopped short. Once under control, the operator communicated that he momentarily lost his port main engine but was able to restart and proceed.	<u>Motion</u> : Farrell/Kirtley – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *SPORT FISHING VESSELS (UNION VOYAGER)*, 3/20/2024

Underway at SF Buoy	While underway the pilot observed approximately 35 vessels less than 20 meters in the traffic lanes and separation zone just south of the SF buoy. Pilot ordered the vessel to begin reducing RPM's to maneuvering speed and posted extra lookouts. As vessel approached the SF buoy, it sounded 5 short blasts of the ship's whistle and made security calls. No vessels responded. With continued use of the vessels whistle and careful use of the rudder, vessel was able to pass through the obstructed traffic lane without incident.	<u>Motion</u> : Anthony/Drennen – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried. Increase awareness with Washington State Ferries and Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife/Sport Fisheries.
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Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *AVAX*, 3/22/2024

Underway East of Pilot Station, off Green Point	Upon first boarding vessel, a bridge alarm sounded. After continued alarms and repeated questioning, pilot was finally advised there was an engine room fire. When the Captain could not answer if any machinery or other critical equipment was affected, the pilot turned around to return to Port Angeles to anchor the vessel. Pilot notified VTS of the situation and requested an escort tug as a cautionary measure. Vessel was safely anchored in anchor position #5 Port Angeles. The vessel had an electrical fire located in an electrical panel outside the ECR. At no time during the fire did the vessel lose engines and all engine orders were answered.	<u>Motion</u> : Anthony/Farrell – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *SEACOR LEE (ESTEEM HOUSTON)*, 3/20/2024

Underway, Anacortes to Vendovi	Pilot was concerned with actions of a US flag vessel and noted that there was no pilot onboard although the vessel appears to be subject to pilotage under 46 CFR 15.812. Deferred to May agenda for more information from the USCG.	Deferred.
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Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *WEST SITCUM CRANES (MANULANI)*, 3/29/2024

Underway in Commencement Bay	Approaching the West Sitcum Waterway to dock portside-to at the north end of the West Sitcum Dock, pilot observed the container cranes were not spotted close together near the midships area of the intended vessel position, contrary to the Puget Sound Harbor Safety Plan. Only one of four cranes was positioned midships; two were at the port bow and one at the port quarter. Docking proceeded without incident.	<u>Motion</u> : Anthony/Firth – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence as well as pass along to newly created workgroup – Carried.
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Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *MANULANI*, 3/30/2024

Underway, Tacoma to Port Angeles	Pilot boarded vessel at APM terminal, Sitcum waterway in Tacoma and departed without incident. While underway, pilot was notified of a fuel leak on the main engine fuel pump and the need to stop the main engine. Pilot notified USCG of intention to return to the vessel's berth. Utilized the assist tugs to tow the vessel back to its berth. Vessel was all fast at the APM North berth. Repairs were attempted but not successful and the sailing was canceled.	<u>Motion</u> : Farrell/Hamilton – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence and add this MSO to the Matson letter – Carried.
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Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Hamilton/Farrell – approve the March 21, 2024, Meeting Minutes as drafted with minor grammatical corrections – Carried.

Committee Actions.

Trainee Evaluation Committee (TEC)

- **Pilot License Upgrade Program: Captains Hannuksela, McGourty & Moore.** TEC Chair Captain Bendixen reported that there are currently 19 pilots in their upgrade window and that the TEC reviewed the 3 upgrade letters for the captains listed above.
Motion: Bendixen/Farrell – approve the pilot license upgrade program for Captains Hannuksela, McGourty & Moore.
- The TEC met yesterday and reviewed all trainee progress, and one trainee came to the TEC meeting to discuss his progress. There are 5 trainees currently in PS and zero trainees in GH. There are 2 trainees in Evaluation, 2 in Training and 1 in Observation. All are progressing well, with one trainee planning to be done in May and another following in June.
- TEC Chair Bendixen also shared the continuing struggles and efforts regarding federal pilotage. She also shared that recently one of the trainees had an issue at the border while attempting to go ride with the BC Coast Pilots even though the trainee had a sponsorship from PPA. The TEC may need to look again at the process and make sure all trainees have an invitation in hand while attempting any Canadian trips. Chair Tonn mentioned the increased budget that Senator Lisa Murkowski was able to secure for the National Maritime Center and the hopes that it will have an impact in the current delays seen from the NMC.

Pilot/Trainee Physical Examination Reports.

Motion: Kirtley/Anthony – approve the pilot physical examination reports for Captains A.B. Seamans, P.L. Velarde & E.T. Michael for their annual pilot license renewals – Carried.

It was noted that the Board had previously received a first draft of the new physical form, but the updated version was not ready for this month's Board meeting. Further revisions of the new form for a Board consideration are forthcoming.

Possible Board Action – Consider Request from PSP.

PSP Executive Director Charlie Costanzo sent a letter to the BPC requesting that the BPC address both the Number of Pilots as well as establish the Target Assignment Level (TAL). After some discussion, it was decided to consider the following two motions:

Motion: Kirtley/Anthony – recognize receipt of the letter from Puget Sound Pilots and plan for Board consideration of the number of pilots – Carried.

Motion: Firth/Drennen – assign the work for establishing the TAL to the Pilot Safety Committee – Carried.

Chair Tonn thanked the PSC for the work ahead of them and advised that Bettina Maki, BPC Data Analyst has already started working on the data that the PSC will need to make recommendations.

Exemptions from Pilotage.

Sailing Yacht *CLIPPER RACE AROUND THE WORLD*– 75', 49gt, British registry, Multiple Captains.

Motion: Drennen/Firth – grant annual exemptions for the 11 yachts with the conditions of limitations in geographic restricted areas – Carried – with abstentions from Captains Anthony & Bendixen.

Motor Yacht *SOUTHERN WAY*– 114', 218gt, Cayman Island registry, Captain Rene Munoz Cabrera.

Motion: Anthony/Farrell – concur with Chair Tonn's granting of the interim annual exemption with the conditions of limitations in Duwamish or Deception Pass – Carried.

Puget Sound Pilot Presentation – Pilot Fall Arrest System (PFAS).

Puget Sound Pilot Captain Matt Hannuksela shared information and a hands-on demonstration of the new pilot fall arrest system (PFAS) equipment by Petzl. This equipment is still in a trial basis and PFAS equipment is voluntary for Puget Sound Pilots.

Committee Updates.

Pilot Safety Committee (PSC)

- Commissioner Drennen reported that the PSC will be meeting next on Monday, May 6.

Vessel Exemption Committee (VEC)

- VEC Chair Anthony stated that the VEC has not met yet.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee (DEIC)

- The DEI Steering Committee is planning to have a meeting in May.

Oil Transportation Safety Committee (OTSC)

- Stakeholder Workshop #7 regarding SEPA will take place Wednesday, May 8, 1pm to 3pm, both virtually and in-person at Ecology's Northwest Office. This workshop will follow the Puget Sound Harbor Safety Committee Meeting.
- The next OTSC meeting for Workshop #7 materials is May 15, 2024.

Confirmation of Next Regular Meeting Dates. Chair Tonn reminded everyone of the upcoming meetings in May and June. There is a Special Meeting of the BPC via Teams only on Wednesday, May 1 at 12:00pm to determine the Simulator Evaluation cut score. The May Regular Meeting will be on Thursday, May 16 and the June meeting will be on Thursday, June 20. All meetings (excluding the Special Meeting) continue to be hybrid, and all are invited and encouraged to attend in person or online.

Public Comment. Chair Tonn asked for public comment, but no public comment was offered.

Adjourn. Meeting was adjourned by Chair Tonn at 2:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaimie C. Bever, Executive Director

Sheri J. Tonn, Chair

Eleanor Kirtley, Vice Chair

Commissioner Timothy J. Farrell

Commissioner Andrew Drennen

Commissioner Richard Firth

Commissioner Sandy Bendixen

Commissioner Michael Anthony

Commissioner Jason R. Hamilton

Commissioner Nhi Irwin



Washington State Board of Pilotage Commissioners Quarterly Key Performance Indicators Dashboard

12 MONTHS ENDING: Mar 31, 2024

Safety

Rest Rule Exceptions

Puget Sound District
KPI target: rate of 0.3% or less
(3 or less per 1000 assigns)

2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4	2024 Q1
0.00%	0.31%	0.27%	0.21%
1739 assigns 0 rest exc.	1926 assigns 6 rest exc.	1819 assigns 5 rest exc.	1874 assigns 4 rest exc.

This KPI counts rest rule exceptions, excluding rest rule exceptions associated with emergent situations. The most common emergent situation is a ship dragging anchor in severe weather.

Rest rules require 1) that pilots have 10 hours rest between assignments, 2) that multiple assignments (e.g. harbor shifts) not exceed 13 hours total duration.

The BPC Pilot Safety Committee reviews rest rule exceptions each quarter.

Grays Harbor District
KPI target: 1 or less per year

2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4	2024 Q1
0	0	0	0
59 assigns 0 rest exc.	39 assigns 0 rest exc.	70 assigns 0 rest exc.	74 assigns 0 rest exc.

Unsafe Transfer Arrangements Resulting in Fall or Injury

KPI target: 0

2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4	2024 Q1
0	0	0	0

This KPI counts occurrences where a pilot or pilot trainee falls or is injured while embarking or disembarking a vessel with noncompliant transfer arrangement, or is physically endangered regardless of whether the incident results in physical injury.

Pollution Incidents (Spills) with Pilot Error

KPI target: 0

2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4	2024 Q1
0	0	0	0

This KPI counts occurrences where actual or apparent collision, allision or grounding or navigational occurrence results in environmental damage (pollution/spill), with pilot error a contributing factor.

Other Incidents (Non-Pollution) with Pilot Error

KPI target: 0

2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4	2024 Q1
0	0	0	1

This KPI counts occurrences where actual or apparent collision, allision or grounding or navigational occurrence results in personal injury or property damage, with pilot error a contributing factor. (Pilot injury associated with noncompliant transfer arrangements reported under Unsafe Transfer Arrangements.)

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

DEI Committee Meetings (quarterly)

KPI target: 1 meeting per quarter or more

2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4	2024 Q1
June 5	July 6		
DEI Steering Committee	DEI Steering Committee	NONE	NONE

DEI Events Attendance and/or Sponsorship (yearly)

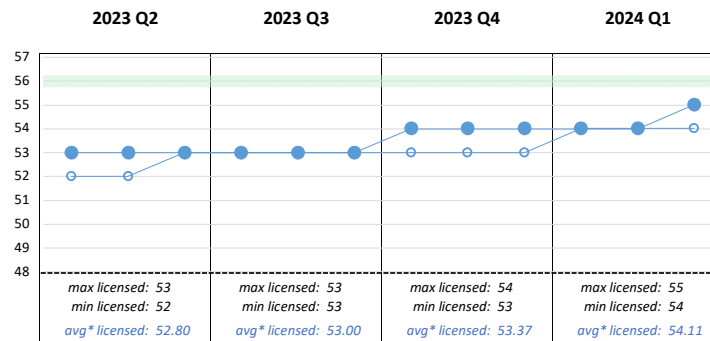
KPI target: 3 events per year or more

	Year	Date	Event	Location	Atten.	Spons.
1	2023	Aug 23	Women Offshore Inclusion Summit	Online		
2	2023	Oct 11-13	Pride in Maritime	Online		
3	2023	Oct 25-27	Women Offshore Conference	Galveston TX		
4	2024	Feb 29-Mar 2	MARAD Women on the Water	Buzzards Bay MA		
5	2024	Mar 15-16	Women in Maritime Leadership	Vallejo CA		

Pilot Training and Licensing

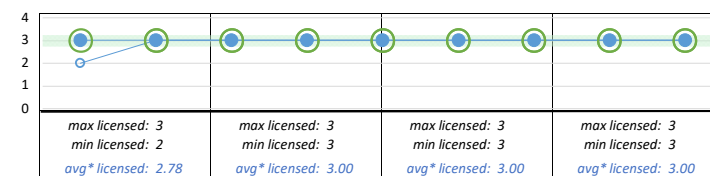
Number of Licensed Pilots

Puget Sound District
KPI target: authorized number
of pilots (currently 56)



*average takes into account mid month retirements & licensures -- it is calculated using aggregate licensed days of all pilots

Grays Harbor District
KPI target: authorized number
of pilots (currently 3)



*average takes into account mid month retirements & licensures -- it is calculated using aggregate licensed days of all pilots

Port of Grays Harbor

Pilotage Report

April 12, 2024

Pilotage Activity

There were 8 arrivals in March (5 dry bulkers, 1 liquid bulker and 2 RoRo's) for a total of 19 jobs. Year to date, through the 1st Quarter, there have been a total of 27 arrivals for a total of 74 jobs.

The April schedule is looking busy with 8 arrivals so far: 6 dry bulker, 1 RoRo and 1 logger.

Pilot Upgrades

Pilot Captain Colby Grobschmit has completed his first year of pilotage.

Dredging

Port staff met with the Army Corps of Engineers last week and were informed that they have received approval for additional dredging in the channel. Port pilots have asked them to consider the area around Buoy 11 for extra work.



WA State Board of Pilotage Commissioners Industry Update April 12, 2024 Meeting

March Arrivals Up by 27 Compared to March 2023

Recall March 2023 Was Low Arrival Month – Here are the March Comparison Numbers

Containers down 4	Car Carriers up 3
Bulkers up 7	Tankers up 17
General up 1	ATB down 3
Other up 3	RoRo up 3

Daily Arrival Averages Are Fairly Consistent over Past 10 Years

This table (data from Marine Exchange) provides a snapshot of daily arrival averages for March for 10 years. This is pre and post COVID and includes changes in rest rule/policies dating back to 2015. The table illustrates the relatively consistent daily arrival average for the month of March for these 10 years. The average is just over 6 arrivals a day (non-cruise season). Assuming an equal number of departures there are on average just over 12 arrivals/departures per day in March. This means the remainder of assignments are shifts, second pilot assignments or cancelations which involve on average significantly less bridge hours and pilotage demand.

Number of Pilots Increased: It is worth noting that the number of pilots at 56 now (including the President) is significantly greater than in the past when BPC data indicated available licensed pilots to be as low as in the mid to upper 40's. If one looks at the percentage increase in licensed pilots from the low over these 10 years, it is well into the double digits meaning average assignments per pilot have overall decreased comparatively.

2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024	
Daily Avg	Arrivals	Daily Avg	Arrivals	Daily Avg	Arrivals	Daily Avg	Arrivals	Daily Avg	Arrivals	Daily Avg	Arrivals	Daily Avg	Arrivals	Daily Avg	Arrivals	Daily Avg	Arrivals	Daily Avg	Arrivals
6.29	195	6.19	192	6.03	187	6.29	195	5.97	185	6.10	189	6.45	200	6.06	188	5.86	170	6.35	197

Blair Waterway – Dredging Window Late Summer, Cautiously Optimistic

The PSP horizontal clearance guidelines changed since last summer and the BPC has been briefed by PSP on crane boom reach in the Blair Waterway and PSP concerns. PSP issued a modification to that guideline recently (assume they will brief BPC on this at this meeting). This situation has involved uncertainty and delays in vessel berthing at PCT and in conjunction with other issues (market forces etc.), the main carrier is looking at a reduction in weekly service at PCT. On the horizon, the NWSA is making progress on leveraging a dredging window in late summer that will deepen an area of concern across from WUT essentially widening the waterway in that area.

Stormwater Management in Uncertain Waters – Pilotage Could Be Impacted

Marine Terminal Operators are facing difficult challenges in managing stormwater given recent decisions (which are likely to be challenged). Why is this relevant to BPC? Because to comply with the expansion of requirements beyond what they have done would likely involve tearing up terminals significantly reducing container terminal acreage and throughput for significant periods of time resulting in a dramatic decrease in cargo volume and ship calls and thus the demand for pilotage would be dramatically decrease as well.

PMSA President announces retirement after three decades

April 2, 2024 By Dom Magli Port Technology News

The Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA) has announced the retirement of its President, John McLaurin, after 29 years of service. McLaurin became President of PMSA in 1995 and has been a prominent figure for the maritime sector ever since. In January G. Scott Jones, Chairman of the PMSA Board of Directors, stated: "John McLaurin leaves behind a legacy of success and integrity. During his tenure at PMSA, we have watched the waterfront progress tremendously. We wholeheartedly thank John for his outstanding leadership at PMSA." PMSA Vice President and General Counsel Mike Jacob has reportedly been selected by the Board of Directors to serve as the next PMSA President.

Panama Canal Will Need Rest of Year to Recover From Drought

[Bloomberg](#) April 2, 2024

The [Panama Canal](#) will need at least the rest of this year to fully recover from the 2023 drought that depleted water levels, choked vessel traffic and cost shippers millions of dollars. La Niña is expected to usher in ample rains in a matter of weeks, providing relief after record dryness afflicted the key transit channel in 2023, said Argelis Moreno Lopez, senior forecast and market analysis specialist in the [Panama Canal Authority](#)'s strategic planning division. The moisture deficit is so severe that it will take months of precipitation to rectify, she added.

Port Houston shows import strength in February

[Tony Mulvey](#) Monday, March 25, 2024

In February, Port Houston reported that total twenty-foot equivalent unit volumes were up 13% m/m and were 20% higher than in 2023. The growth in TEU volume y/y is aided by the timing of the Lunar New Year, but so far in 2024, the growth has shown that Panama Canal challenges and the Red Sea conflict have had very little impact on container volumes so to date. Year-to-date total container volumes at Port Houston are up 12% compared to 2023. Loaded TEU imports totaled 166,849 in February, up 8% m/m and 18% higher than they were in 2023. Year-to-date loaded TEU imports are 10% higher than they were last year.

Why Congestion Could Be on the Horizon for Port of L.A.

April 2, 2024 Nick Bowman Senior Editor Supply Chain Brain

Already in 2024, the port has moved around 1.6 million 20-foot equivalent units (TEUs), a 35% increase over the same period last year. With port terminals operating at 75% to 80% capacity, "market confidence in our gateway is as strong as it's ever been," executive director Gene Seroka said in the March briefing. Should the port struggle with congestion: pivoting to the Pacific Northwest. "People just so rarely think of the PNW/Seattle-Tacoma as an alternative," he says. "Their volumes are actually down, and you've got the rail infrastructure to service virtually everywhere." So far in 2024, the Northwest Seaport Alliance is reporting average terminal dwell times of two and a half days at the ports of Seattle and Tacoma. "This means that shippers can save time using our terminals in the event the supply chain becomes strained along the West Coast," NWSA spokesperson Melanie Stambaugh says. She adds that the Port of Seattle is in the final stages of opening a second berth at its Terminal 5, which would provide even more cargo-handling capabilities.

WA Gov. Inslee signs slate of climate and environment bills into law

By Conrad Swanson Seattle Times climate reporter March 28, 2024 at 3:04 pm

During the last bill-signing tour of his career at the helm of Washington, outgoing Gov. Jay Inslee signed a wide slate of climate and environmental bills into law Thursday afternoon. The bills include Senate Bill 6058, an attempt to help link Washington's carbon market with that of California and Quebec. Combining markets would stabilize the cost of greenhouse gas allowances paid by major polluters, in turn lowering pass-through costs for gasoline, Inslee and others have repeatedly said. While state officials are eying that linkage, voters must decide in November whether to approve an effort to repeal the policy behind the market outright.



MARCH 2024

Nearly Complete February 2024 Numbers

While we have most of the February TEU tallies from the 23 North American ports we monitor, we should note that containerized trade numbers in February are almost always skewed by the timing of the Lunar New Year. Factory closures in a broad swath of East Asia during the holiday cause shipments to be either accelerated or delayed. The result is that February numbers are boosted or diminished by the whims of the holiday calendar. This February, the year-over-year (y/y) gains in imported containers at U.S. ports were also a function of a slowdown in imports in February 2023 as the COVID era import surge finally ran out of gas. Inbound loads through the ports we monitored in February 2023 were down by 26.1% when compared to February 2022. And there's also the small matter of the Sadie Hawkins Day Bump: this February was a day longer.

As for this year's February, we turn first to a couple of oracles to tell us how the ports that have a financial stake in accurately counting the boxes they handle will fare in the year's shortest month.

First up, a February 9 forecast from the National Retail Federation's Global Port Tracker (NRF/GPT) predicted February 2024 would see the arrival of 1.86 million import loads at the thirteen U.S. port it surveys. That, as the NRF/GPT calculated, would

have represented an imposing 20.4% increase over February 2023. The NRF/GPT subsequently revised that outlook in a March 8 news release. It currently expects February's inbound loads to total 1.9 million TEUs for a 22.7% y/y jump.

A somewhat similar different set of numbers comes from Descartes Systems Group, a supply chain monitor, which reports an estimated 2.14 million TEUs were imported through U.S. ports in February. Descartes calculates that constituted a 23.3% year-over-year increase.

For the time being, here's what we're hearing directly from some of the nation's principal seaports.

The **Port of Savannah** was the first major U.S. port to announce its February container trade numbers. Inbound loads that month (218,997) were up 18.9% from a year earlier and up 46.3% from the same month in pre-pandemic 2019. Outbound loads (121,933) were up 10.1% y/y and up 15.8% over February 2019. Total container traffic in this year's first two months totaled 879,709 loads and empties, up 7.7% from the same point last year and 13.9% ahead of the volume of January-February 2019.

At the **Port of Long Beach**, February inbound loads (329,850) were up 29.4% from a year earlier, while outbound loads (87,474) declined by

Until We Meet Again

By John McLaurin, PMSA President

I have had the honor and privilege to work at the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA) for the last 29 years. To have worked with, and for, incredibly talented and wonderful people in such an innovative industry has been an amazing experience.

The years flew by. And now they are coming to an end.

Deciding to retire was a difficult decision for me, although not so much for my family. But I do believe change is good – both for organizations and individuals. I am comforted to know that PMSA is moving forward with strong leadership, a wonderful Board of Directors, and an incredibly talented staff.

[Continued on page 14](#)

21.1%. Measured against this time in pre-pandemic 2019, inbound loads were down 8.9%, while outbound loads were lower by 16.9%. Year to date, total box trade movement through the Southern California gateway amounted to 1,348,738 TEUs, up 17.3% from the same months in 2019.

Year-over-year jumps were even more stupendous next door at the **Port of Los Angeles**, where inbound





Partial Tallies

Continued

loads in February (408,764) were up 63.9% over a year earlier. Outbound loads (132,755) were meanwhile up 61.1% y/y. Total container traffic YTD (1,637,086) was up 34.9% over the first two months of last year. Measured against the pre-pandemic February of 2019, inbound loads this February were up 17.4%, while outbound loads were down 6.9%. Total container moves through the port YTD were up 5.1% from this point in 2019.

In Northern California, the **Port of Oakland** posted a set of strong y/y gains. Inbound loads (76,734) were up 32.1% from a year earlier, while outbound loads (69,242) were up 24.2%. Measured against February 2019, inbound loads this February were up 9.7%, while outbound loads were up 2.1%. Total container traffic through the East Bay port YTD (363,238) remained down by 8.8%.

At the **Northwest Seaport Alliance Ports of Tacoma and Seattle**, inbound loads in February (81,823) were off 1.5% from a year earlier and down 17.9% from February 2019. Outbound loads (50,150) were up 9.6% y/y but still 17.9% below the mark set in the same month five years earlier. Total container moves YTD through the

Washington State gateways (437,887) were down 26.5% from the first two months of 2019.

Up in British Columbia, the **Port of Vancouver** handled 153,005 inbound loads in February, a gain of 22.6% from a year earlier and, more importantly, 18.2% more inbound loads than it had seen in February 2019. However, outbound loads (72,838) in February, while up 9.6% y/y, remained 21.6% below the 92,869 loads that had sailed from the port five years earlier. Total container moves YTD (553,347) were 3.5% lower than the volume of loads and empties handled to this point in 2019.

Further north, the **Port of Prince Rupert** handled 30,324 inbound loads in February, up 30.5% from a year earlier but still down 12.8% from February 2019. Outbound loads (9,322) were up 10.9% y/y but remained 20.2% below February 2019. Total container traffic YTD (116,952) was down 27.7% from 2019.

Back on the Atlantic seaboard, the **Port of Virginia** received 130,965 inbound loads in the year's second month, a 20.4% gain from a year earlier and 46.3% more inbound loads than the port handled back in February 2019. Outbound loads (99,969) were

were up 3.7% y/y and 30.4% more than in February 2019. Total container traffic so far this calendar year (558,594) was up 19.3% from 2019.

The **Port of Charleston** reported the arrival of 104,118 inbound loads in February, up 11.0% y/y and up 34.1% than in February 2019. Outbound loads (59,639), however, were down 2.9% from a year earlier as well as down 3.9% from February 2019. YTD, total container traffic through the South Carolina port (410,887) was down 1.4% from last year but up 7.1% from 2019.

At **Port Houston**, everything in February was up by double digits. Inbound loads (166,849) were up 17.5% y/y and 91.9% higher than the 86,953 inbound loads the Texas port handled in February 2019. Meanwhile, outbound loads (145,766) increased by 25.4% from a year earlier and were 68.6% more than February 2019's 86,460 inbound loads. Total container traffic so far this year (708,926) was 11.9% ahead of last year and up 71.5% from 2019.

The **Port of New York/New Jersey** is the only major container port that had not released its February container figures in time for inclusion in this month's newsletter.



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FOR THE RECORD

Complete January 2024 TEU Tallies

What a difference a month makes. In a February 9 press release, the National Retail Federation's Global Port Tracker (NRF/GPT) ventured a forecast stating that 1.81 million inbound loads would arrive in January at the thirteen major U.S. ports it monitors. That, as the NRF/GPT release noted, would represent a meager 0.3% increase from a year earlier. However, in a press release on March 8, NRF/GPT reported that actual inbound loads in January totaled 1.96 million TEUs, which was said to represent an 8.6% y/y increase.

At PMSA, we track container traffic through 19 U.S. mainland ports as well as three ports in Canada. As **Exhibit 1** shows, the U.S. ports we monitor collectively reported handling 2,084,583 inbound loads in January, an 8.1% y/y increase but a smaller 4.5% (+89,952) gain over the first month of pre-pandemic 2019. U.S. West Coast ports alone recorded 937,829 inbound loads, a 17.3% bump over the preceding January but still 37,594 (-3.9%) fewer inbound loads than in January 2019. U.S. East Coast ports handled 981,098 inbound loads this January, up 1.1% y/y and 7.4% ahead of the monthly tally five years ago. U.S. Gulf Coast ports posted a 4.6% y/y increase in January but an even more impressive 55.9% (+59,417) jump since the first month of 2019.

Nationally, as **Exhibit 2** displays, outbound loads in January did edge up

Exhibit 1

January 2024 Inbound Loaded TEUs at Selected Ports

	Jan 2024	Jan 2023	Jan 2019	Change from 2022	Change from 2019
Los Angeles	441,763	372,040	429,923	18.7%	2.8%
Long Beach	325,339	263,394	323,838	23.5%	0.5%
San Pedro Bay Total	767,102	635,434	753,761	20.7%	1.8%
Oakland	72,081	66,637	81,893	8.2%	-12.0%
NWSA	80,410	79,067	128,615	1.7%	-37.5%
Hueneme	12,228	11,271	6,076	8.5%	101.3%
San Diego	6,008	7,154	5,078	-16.0%	18.3%
USWC Total	937,829	799,563	975,423	17.3%	-3.9%
Boston	11,490	10,570	11,728	8.7%	-2.0%
NYNJ	342,790	323,981	327,345	5.8%	4.7%
Philadelphia	33,524	32,802	26,143	2.2%	28.2%
Maryland	48,142	49,665	43,869	-3.1%	9.7%
Virginia	129,204	134,589	109,757	-4.0%	17.7%
South Carolina	99,765	108,786	88,107	-8.3%	13.2%
Georgia	219,079	210,804	209,583	3.9%	4.5%
Jaxport	26,388	24,205	30,321	-9.0%	-13.0%
Port Everglades	30,239	30,320	27,730	-0.3%	9.0%
Miami	40,477	44,234	39,286	-8.5%	3.0%
USEC Total	981,098	969,956	913,869	1.1%	7.4%
New Orleans	11,163	9,006	10,921	24.0%	2.2%
Houston	154,493	149,400	95,318	3.4%	62.1%
USGC	165,656	158,406	106,239	4.6%	55.9%
Vancouver	147,768	121,081	170,370	22.0%	-13.3%
Prince Rupert	35,804	39,012	54,481	-8.2%	-34.3%
British Columbia Total	183,572	160,093	224,851	14.7%	-18.4%
U.S. Totals	2,084,583	1,927,925	1,995,531	8.1%	4.5%

Source Individual Ports



January 2024 TEU Numbers

Continued

0.9% over last January but remained 8.7% (-91,319) below January 2019. Only the Gulf Coast ports posted a gain in outbound loads since 2019.

Now on to the January numbers supplied by the individual ports themselves. As usual, we start our port-by-port accounting in Southern California, where the nation's two busiest container ports started the year on a very positive note.

The **Port of Long Beach** was the first major port to post its January container trade figures. The 325,339 inbound loads discharged at the San Pedro Bay port in the year's first month represented a 23.5% jump over the same month in 2023 but a much slimmer 0.5% gain over pre-pandemic January 2019. Outbound loads (86,525), however, were down by 18.1% year-over-year and by 26.2% from January 2019. Counting both loads and empties, total container traffic (674,015) in January was up 17.5% from a year earlier and 2.5% higher than in January 2019.

Across the way at the neighboring **Port of Los Angeles**, the year-over-year gains in import traffic were likewise robust. Inbound loads in January (441,763) were up 18.7% from the same month in 2023 but just 2.8% ahead of January 2019. Outbound loads (126,554) surged by 23.2% but were nonetheless down 12.7% from January 2019. Total container traffic (855,652) this January was up 17.9% y/y and 2.5% over the five years since January 2019.

Taken together, the two San Pedro Bay ports posted a 20.7%

Exhibit 2

January 2024 Outbound Loaded TEUs at Selected Ports

	Jan 2024	Jan 2023	Jan 2019	Change from 2023	Change from 2019
Los Angeles	126,554	102,723	144,993	23.2%	-12.7%
Long Beach	86,525	105,623	117,288	-18.1%	-26.2%
San Pedro Bay Totals	213,079	208,346	262,281	2.3%	-18.8%
Oakland	62,596	57,279	75,350	9.3%	-16.9%
NWSA	46,215	38,637	72,859	19.6%	-36.6%
Hueneme	1,780	1,956	1,518	-9.0%	17.3%
San Diego	526	164	802	120.7%	-34.4%
USWC Totals	324,196	306,382	412,810	5.8%	-21.5%
Boston	4,318	5,896	5,723	-26.8%	-24.6%
NYNJ	104,724	112,269	111,833	-6.7%	-6.4%
Philadelphia	5,194	6,327	6,211	-17.9%	-16.4%
Maryland	17,612	20,342	15,947	-13.4%	10.4%
Virginia	94,376	96,431	77,948	-2.1%	21.1%
South Carolina	60,962	59,965	63,750	1.7%	-4.4%
Georgia	104,685	110,305	124,373	-5.1%	-15.8%
Jaxport	39,855	42,483	40,475	-6.2%	-1.5%
Port Everglades	32,088	31,760	33,662	1.0%	-4.7%
Miami	21,172	22,360	38,852	-5.3%	-45.5%
USEC Totals	484,986	508,138	518,774	-4.6%	-6.5%
New Orleans	20,782	17,418	25,875	19.3%	-19.7%
Houston	124,137	113,875	87,961	9.0%	41.1%
USGC Totals	144,919	131,293	113,836	10.4%	27.3%
Vancouver	54,157	59,966	91,398	-9.7%	-40.7%
Prince Rupert	11,443	11,215	17,156	2.0%	-33.3%
British Columbia Totals	65,600	71,181	108,554	-7.8%	-39.6%
U.S. Totals	954,101	945,813	1,045,420	0.9%	-8.7%

Source Individual Ports



Exhibit 3 January 2024 YTD Total TEUs

	Jan 2024	Jan 2023	Jan 2019	Change from 2023	Change from 2019
Los Angeles	855,652	726,014	852,450	17.9%	0.4%
Long Beach	674,015	573,772	657,286	17.5%	2.5%
NYNJ	667,346	645,430	622,531	3.4%	7.2%
Georgia	428,036	421,714	430,079	1.5%	-0.5%
Houston	332,961	319,990	214,952	4.1%	53.9%
Virginia	276,693	288,380	240,111	-4.1%	15.2%
Vancouver	262,880	247,473	313,527	6.2%	-16.2%
NWSA	211,283	213,095	326,228	-0.9%	-35.2%
South Carolina	208,538	215,238	205,689	-3.1%	1.4%
Oakland	180,487	179,228	212,493	0.7%	-15.1%
Montreal	108,202	118,870	132,936	-9.0%	-18.6%
JaxPort	101,953	100,182	121,397	1.8%	-16.0%
Port Everglades	93,138	92,145	89,866	1.1%	3.6%
Maryland	90,427	98,966	85,266	-8.6%	6.1%
Miami	89,635	96,188	104,183	-6.8%	-14.0%
Phila.	65,622	65,963	53,324	-0.5%	23.1%
Prince Rupert	62,567	76,564	100,868	-18.3%	-38.0%
New Orleans	45,873	37,388	54,474	22.7%	-15.8%
Hueneme	23,576	22,649	12,542	4.1%	88.0%
Boston	21,260	21,247	23,275	0.1%	-8.7%
San Diego	11,898	14,913	10,192	-20.2%	16.7%
Portland, Oregon	8,421	12,290	0	-31.5%	∞%
U.S. Ports Total	4,386,814	4,144,792	4,316,338	5.8%	1.6%

Source Individual Ports

Exhibit 4 Major USWC Ports Shares of U.S. Mainland Ports Worldwide Container Trade, January 2024

		Jan 2024	Jan 2023	Jan 2019	Jan 2015
Import Tonnage	USWC	36.8%	31.8%	39.3%	45.1%
	LA/LB	28.0%	23.3%	28.7%	33.3%
	Oak.	3.0%	3.1%	3.7%	4.4%
	NWSA	3.8%	3.5%	5.3%	6.2%
Import Value	USWC	41.3%	38.0%	47.5%	54.3%
	LA/LB	33.3%	30.0%	37.0%	42.6%
	Oak.	2.7%	2.6%	3.5%	3.7%
	NWSA	4.2%	4.3%	6.4%	7.3%
Export Tonnage	USWC	31.3%	30.8%	38.2%	41.9%
	LA/LB	18.6%	18.3%	22.1%	25.9%
	Oak.	5.7%	5.3%	6.5%	6.1%
	NWSA	6.1%	5.4%	8.7%	9.2%
Export Value	USWC	27.0%	26.7%	32.0%	34.8%
	LA/LB	17.6%	17.2%	20.4%	23.6%
	Oak.	5.7%	5.4%	6.5%	5.5%
	NWSA	3.2%	3.2%	4.4%	5.2%

Source: U.S. Commerce Department

Exhibit 5 Major USWC Ports Shares of U.S. Mainland Ports Containerized Trade with East Asia, January 2024

		Jan 2024	Jan 2023	Jan 2019	Jan 2015
Import Tonnage	USWC	53.8%	50.1%	57.2%	66.7%
	LA/LB	43.8%	39.6%	44.8%	51.3%
	Oak.	3.4%	3.8%	4.1%	4.8%
	NWSA	5.4%	5.6%	7.8%	9.5%
Import Value	USWC	60.6%	57.1%	66.1%	74.4%
	LA/LB	50.2%	46.4%	52.7%	59.5%
	Oak.	3.3%	3.1%	3.9%	4.1%
	NWSA	6.0%	6.6%	8.8%	10.0%
Export Tonnage	USWC	50.0%	49.1%	58.5%	66.0%
	LA/LB	30.8%	29.8%	35.9%	43.0%
	Oak.	8.0%	7.5%	8.6%	8.1%
	NWSA	9.9%	8.8%	13.6%	14.0%
Export Value	USWC	52.4%	54.1%	62.0%	68.4%
	LA/LB	35.4%	35.4%	41.9%	48.5%
	Oak.	9.7%	9.6%	10.4%	9.0%
	NWSA	6.7%	7.1%	8.4%	10.0%

Source: U.S. Commerce Department



January 2024 TEU Numbers

Continued

year-over-year gain in inbound loads that brought them nearer to the volumes they had handled in the pre-pandemic January of 2019. Collectively, January's inbound loads were up by only 1.8% over the same month five years earlier, while outbound loads were 18.8% lower. Total container traffic through North America's principal maritime gateway grew by only 1.3% over the last five years.

The **Port of Oakland**, Northern California's chief maritime gateway, reported 72,081 inbound loads in January. While that represented an 8.2% rise from a year earlier, it was still down 12.0% from January 2019. Similarly, outbound loads (62,596) were up 9.3% y/y but down 16.9% from January 2019. Total container traffic (180,487) edged up 0.7% from a year earlier but remained down 15.1% from five years ago.

Up in Washington State, the **Northwest Seaport Alliance Ports of Tacoma and Seattle** recorded 80,410 import loads in the year's first month. While that was up 1.7% from the previous January, it was down 35.5% from the 128,615 import loads the ports handled in January 2019. Export loads (46,215) in January

jumped 19.6% y/y but remained 36.6% below January 2019. Total container traffic through the ports amounted to 211,283 in January, down 35.2% from five years earlier.

Across the border in British Columbia, the **Port of Vancouver** handled 147,768 inbound loads in January, a 22.0% bump over a year earlier but still down 13.3% from January 2019. Outbound loads (54,157) were down 9.7% y/y and 40.7% below January 2019. Total container traffic (262,880) through Canada's busiest container port was up 6.2% from a year earlier but down 16.2% from January 2019.

January saw little respite from falling TEU counts at the **Port of Prince Rupert**. Inbound loads (35,804) were down by 8.2% from a year earlier and 34.3% below the volume the port handled in January 2019. Outbound loads (11,443), while up 2.0% y/y, were down by 33.3% from January 2019. Total container traffic (62,567) was down 18.3% from a year earlier and down 38.0% from January 2019.

Along the Atlantic Seaboard, the **Port of New York/New Jersey** handled 342,790 inbound loads in January, a 5.8% year-over-year gain and a 4.7% increase over January 2019.

Outbound loads (104,724) were down 6.7% from the previous January and off by 6.4% from five years earlier. Total container traffic (667,346) was up 3.4% y/y and up by 7.2% from January 2019.

The **Port of Virginia** handled 129,204 inbound loads in January, a drop of 4.0% y/y but up 17.7% from January 2019. Outbound loads (94,376) slipped 2.1% from a year earlier but were 21.1% ahead of January 2019's volume.

The **Port of Charleston** handled 99,765 inbound loads in the year's first month, down 8.3% from a year earlier but up 13.2% from January 2019. Outbound loads through the South Carolina port (60,962) were up 1.7% y/y but down 4.4% from January 2019. Total container trade in January (208,538) was up 1.4% from the same month five years earlier.

The **Port of Savannah** reported 219,079 inbound loads in the year's first month, up 3.9% from a year earlier and up 4.5% over January 2019. 104,685 outbound loads sailed from the Georgia port in January, off 5.1% y/y and down by 15.8% from the same month five years ago.

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January 2024 TEU Numbers

Continued

Along the Gulf Coast, **Port Houston** reported all-around gains despite restrictions on cargo traffic through the Panama Canal. The Texas port handled 154,493 inbound loads in the first month of the year, up 3.4% year-over-year but also up 62.1% over January 2019. Outbound loads (124,137) were up 9.0% y/y and up 41.1% from January 2019. Total container traffic in January (332,961) was up 4.1% from a year earlier and up 53.9% from January 2019.

Altogether, the U.S. ports we track handled 2,084,583 inbound loads in January, an 8.1% gain from a year earlier and a 4.5% increase over January 2019. Outbound loads (954,101) inched up 0.9% y/y but remained down 8.7% from January 2019. Total container traffic of loads and empties in the year's first month (4,386,814) was up 5.8% y/y and 1.6% over the first month of 2019.

A Pointed Clarification: A reader has queried us about our **Exhibit 3**, which ranks the North American container ports we monitor by the total number of loads and empties they handle each month. The reader noted that, after excluding the three Canadian ports from the list, only 19 and not 20 U.S. ports made the standings. What, she asked, is Number 20?

Frankly, we don't quite know.

To be sure, we do not advertise Exhibit 3 as a Top 20 list. Rather, it is a ranking of the ports from which we are able to obtain comparable data in a timely manner. Not all ports post monthly container trade statistics. Some don't helpfully distinguish loaded containers from empties. Some don't appear to be in a hurry



Photo courtesy of Port of Hueneme

to publish their latest figures. And some seem to regard their TEU tallies as proprietary information or even as state secrets. For example, when we recently asked for statistics on container traffic through a fast-growing port in a certain Southern state, we received a formal response from that state's port authority that, as we are not resident in the state, we are not entitled to such information. So, whether the Port of Mobile is the nation's 20th busiest container port, we can't truly say. Instead, we make the best of what's made available to us.

Container Contents Weights and Values

Exhibit 4 and **Exhibit 5** display the U.S. West Coast ports' shares of the nation's containerized trade through all mainland U.S. ports against which USWC port compete for discretionary cargos. The data are derived from import/export documents shippers file with Customs and Border Protection. For a broader perspective, we compare the most recent month for which data are available with the same month in the preceding year, in pre-pandemic 2019, and a decade earlier. For those who are inclined to add up the numbers, the USWC totals in these two exhibits include international container trade moving through smaller West Coast ports like San Diego, Hueneme, and Everett in

addition to the container figures from the USWC Big Five ports.

Exhibit 4 shows a significant uptick in the USWC share of all containerized import tonnage flowing into the mainland U.S. ports with which USWC ports directly compete. Nearly all of the net gain can be attributed to increased volumes of imports through the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. Still, the latest USWC shares remain well below the historical benchmarks.

Exhibit 5 focuses on the USWC shares of U.S. containerized trade involving trading partners in East Asia. Again, the numbers indicate that the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach are capturing a significantly larger share of the containerized import trade as well as an appreciably bigger share of containerized exports to East Asia. The latest shares, however, remain sharply down from the historic benchmarks.

Twenty Odd Years of USWC Transpacific Container Trade

Between 2003 and 2023, containerized import tonnage shipped from East Asia through U.S. mainland ports increased by 103.0%, while containerized import tonnage through the five largest West Coast ports grew by just 40.2%. Understandably, as **Exhibit 6** reveals, the Big Five USWC



January 2024 TEU Numbers

Continued

ports' combined share of the inbound containerized trade from East Asia declined almost steadily from 73.9% in 2003 to 55.8% in pre-pandemic 2019 before reaching 51.1% last year.

Exhibit 7 depicts a similar downward trend in the USWC share of containerized export tonnage to our East Asian trading partners from a peak of 68.5% in 2005 to 58.7% in 2019 and then to 51.0% in 2023.

Top U.S. Containerized Import/Export Gateways by Value

For the record, here are two exhibits (**Exhibits 8 and 9**) displaying the Top U.S. maritime gateways ranked by the declared dollar value of their containerized imports and exports in CY 2023.

New Outlook on Agricultural Trade

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has revised its import and export forecasts for FY 2024. Imports of agricultural produce are expected to increase to \$201 billion, up 2.9% from

Exhibit 6

USWC Big Five Ports' Share of U.S. Containerized Import Tonnage from East Asia: 2003-2023

Source: U.S. Commerce Department

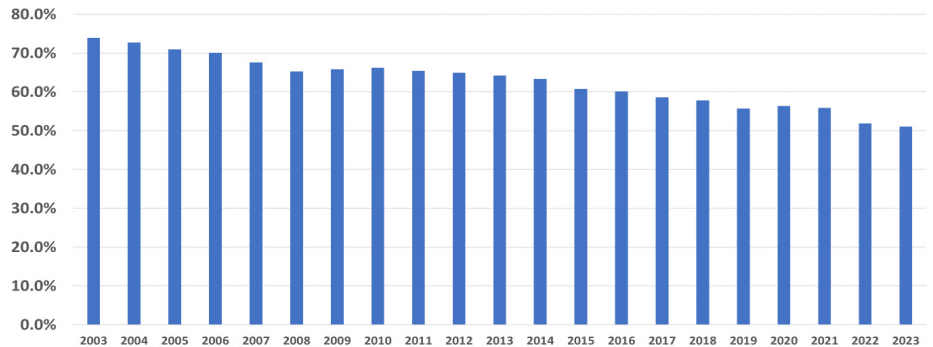


Exhibit 7

USWC Big Five Ports' Share of U.S. Containerized Export Tonnage to East Asia: 2003-2023

Source: U.S. Commerce Department

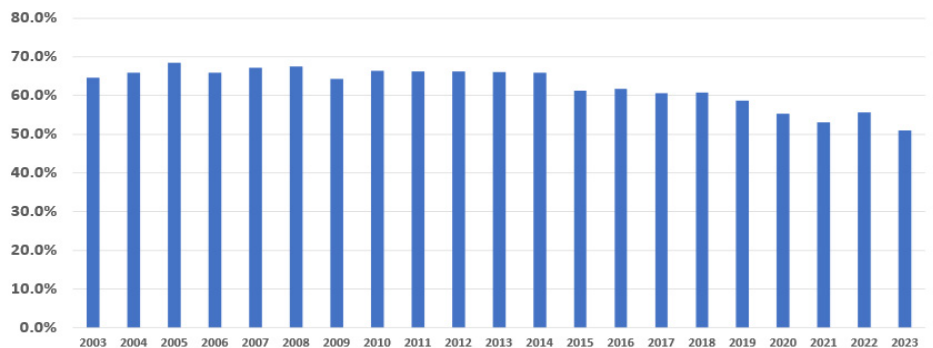


Exhibit 8

Top U.S. Containerized Import Gateways by Value, 2023

Source: U.S. Commerce Department

Los Angeles-Long Beach	\$300,469,900,384
New York/New Jersey	\$246,708,691,150
Savannah	\$88,989,212,639
Houston	\$70,760,347,790
Norfolk	\$67,288,256,007
Charleston	\$64,530,730,710
NWSA	\$47,325,104,418
Oakland	\$27,855,494,526
Baltimore	\$24,655,863,016
Miami	\$19,360,970,740
Philadelphia	\$16,322,712,957

Exhibit 9

Top U.S. Containerized Export Gateways by Value, 2023

Source: U.S. Commerce Department

Los Angeles-Long Beach	\$3,843,884,116
New York/New Jersey	\$3,056,839,663
Houston	\$2,833,613,300
Norfolk	\$2,528,630,136
Savannah	\$2,076,035,358
Charleston	\$1,282,073,127
Oakland	\$1,195,767,391
Port Everglades	\$937,704,970
Miami	\$746,154,318
NWSA	\$708,029,022
San Juan	\$521,283,559



January 2024 TEU Numbers

Continued

2023. Exports should be about \$170 billion, down \$8 billion from the previous year. China is expected to remain the largest market for U.S. agricultural exports at \$28.7 billion, down some \$800 million from the previous forecast. The fall-off is attributed to China's higher imports of soybeans and corn from South America.

AI's Threat to the Grid

As ports up and down the West Coast embark on ambitious and expensive plans to electrify nearly every element of their operations in order to comply with increasingly stringent air quality mandates, the question persists: Can utilities in the Western States produce and deliver the juice needed to make these plans work?

Lately, we've all been fascinated (and probably made at least somewhat anxious) by the remarkably fast adoption of Artificial Intelligence by individual internet users. Two months after its release in November 2022, OpenAI's ChatGPT had over 100 million active users worldwide. It thus became the most rapidly adopted new technology in history, with an impact widely compared to the Internet itself.

Yet nearly all public discussion about AI revolves around two big questions. What will be AI's impact on the labor market and how can the malicious use of the technology be minimized?

Commonly overlooked is AI's enormous need for electricity. Every Internet interaction taps into servers stored in data centers around the

globe. If there's an anonymous-looking, windowless building down the street that emits a steady, audible hum, it may well be one of these facilities. Right now, these data centers account for about 1 to 1.5% of global electricity use, according to the International Energy Agency. But that demand is expected to surge as AI gains popularity.

Earlier this month, *Barron's* reported that energy companies are increasingly citing AI as a major driver of electricity demand. If anything is to slow AI's rise, the article noted, it's the limits imposed by the grid's capacity.

And it's not just its soaring need for electrical power that poses a problem for planners. A February report from Yale University stated that "artificial intelligence uses massive amounts of energy for computation and data storage and **millions of gallons of water to cool the equipment at data centers**". [Emphasis added.] Sure, it rained a lot this winter, record snowpacks shroud our mountains, and reservoirs are full. But how often does that happen?

A recent *Scientific American* article highlights the issue of AI's growing energy footprint.

"Researchers have been raising general alarms about AI's hefty energy requirements over the past few months. A continuation of the current trends in AI capacity and adoption are set to lead to NVIDIA shipping 1.5 million AI server units per year by 2027. These 1.5 million servers, running at full

capacity, would consume at least 85.4 terawatt-hours of electricity annually—more than what many small countries use in a year." {Emphasis added.]

A peer-reviewed analysis published last October ventures some early estimates of AI's potential drain on global energy supplies. In a midrange scenario, AI servers could use between 85 to 134 terawatt hours annually by 2027. That's about what Argentina, the Netherlands, and Sweden each use in a year. Of course, consumption is expected to be greatest in those regions where the population is more computer savvy and industry is more reliant on AI.

And this does not even address the drain from cryptocurrency mining and transactions.

So, installing rows and rows of charging stations to fuel the various modes used to convey containers around ports may be a desirable goal. And the funds may currently be available to finance the rollout of charging infrastructure. But, at the end of the day, without adequate or steady supplies of juice, how many of them will wind up standing idle, rusting away as testaments to an absence of holistic planning?



JOCK O'CONNELL'S COMMENTARY

Whither Portland?

The Port of Portland on the Columbia River has definitely seen its ups and downs, as has the city it serves. There was a time when the City of Portland was widely touted as a model of enlightened municipal government. Civic officials from around the country and even from abroad made pilgrimages to the "City of Roses" to learn the secrets of promoting economic prosperity and cultural innovation while fostering an inclusive, environmentally conscious, and socially progressive atmosphere in which to live, work, and drink lots of coffee.

These days, if any municipal leaders flock to Portland, it's to figure out what went wrong. Civil disturbances, rampant drug abuse, homelessness, and a downright nasty political climate have gravely tarnished the city's reputation, although, to be sure, Michelin still thinks the town features some fine restaurants.

As for its Port, it's also had its moments...mainly in the past.

From a financial perspective, the Port of Portland is primarily a thriving airport with a maritime subsidiary. In the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2023, 76.2% of the Port's \$401.1 million in operating revenue came from its commercial aviation sector, Portland International Airport (PDX). The other 23.8% came from activities categorized as "Marine & Other", a category that oddly includes both the Port's maritime operations and Hillsboro Airport, a general aviation airfield said to be Oregon's second busiest airport.

As for the Port's non-aviation business, **Exhibit C** shows that maritime container traffic through the Port of Portland actually topped out at 338,941 TEUs in 2003. But even such a seemingly high container volumes did not translate into profits.

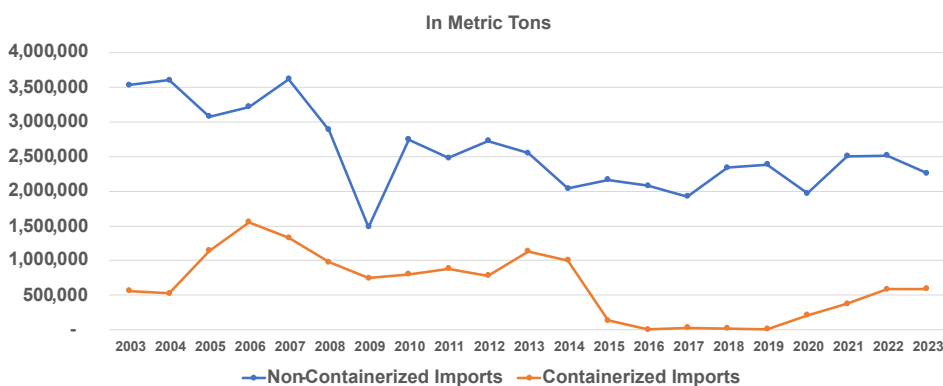
According to a February 2017 report in *The Oregonian*, the "Port operated the terminal itself for more than 30 years, turning a profit during only two of them. It subsidized the operation as part of the public agency's mission to support the state's economy. But by 2007, Port leaders saw a private operator as the only sustainable option."

In 2010, the Port signed a 25-year lease with the Philippines-based International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI) for \$4.5 million in annual payments. ICTSI's tenure at the Port was not an altogether happy one. In 2012, the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) complained that ICTSI had failed to reassign to the ILWU two jobs that involved the handling of refrigerated containers after ICTSI had assumed control of container operations at the Port's Terminal 6 the previous year. The two positions were under the jurisdiction of another union, the International Association of Machinists. (Full disclosure: In 1957, before heading off for eight weeks of summer camp on Maine's Long Lake, I briefly played on a Little League team sponsored by the IAM.)

The dispute over who got to plug in or unplug reefers at the Port played out over the next few years and would eventually cost the union dearly. But not before work slowdowns and other dilatory practices drove major ocean carriers away. In March 2015, Hanjin, the South Korean-based shipping line, that then accounted for 78% of all

Exhibit A**Import Tonnage Through Port of Portland: 2003-2023**

Source: U.S. Commerce Department





Commentary
Continued

container traffic at the Port, stopped calling at T6. Hapag-Lloyd soon followed suit, with Westwood Shipping Lines ceasing service to T6 in May 2016.

After a May 2014 National Labor Relations Board judge ruled that the ILWU was intentionally and unlawfully slowing work at the Port, the dispute dragged on in the courts. In November 2019, ICTSI won a \$94 million preliminary award following a jury’s verdict against the ILWU for unlawful labor practices including “work stoppages, slowdowns, ‘safety gimmicks’ and other coercive actions” between August 2013 and March 2017. Finally, in February 2024, the judge reduced the amount to \$19 million.

But the damage was done. As **Exhibit C** illustrates, the years of contentious labor relations had dramatic consequences for container shipping through the Port.

In 2018, the Port commissioned an outside consultant to identify a sustainable business model for container shipping through Terminal 6. The study, while acknowledging the terminal’s role in linking the region’s businesses and consumers to the global economy, also noted that geography and the evolution of container shipping gravely limited the Port’s options as a gateway for containerized cargo. The study concluded that T6’s future would best be realized as a multi-use facility.

Now, in 2024, the future of container shipping at T6 continues to look grim. Unlike other West Coast ports that operate as landlords leasing space to terminal operators, the Port of

Exhibit B Export Tonnage Through Port of Portland: 2003-2023

Source: U.S. Commerce Department

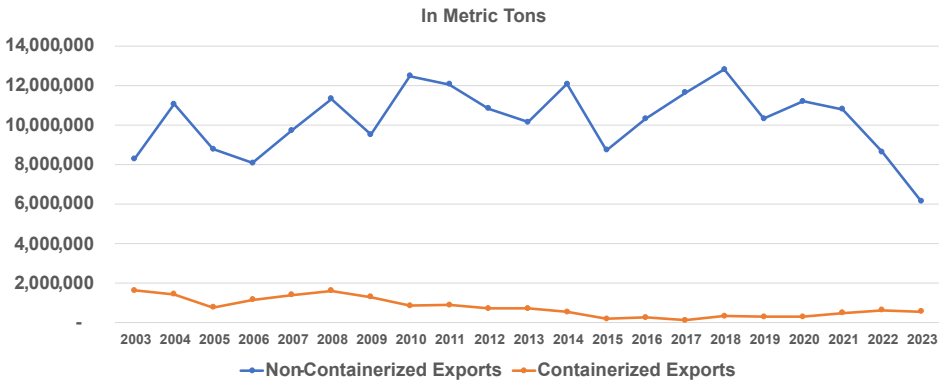
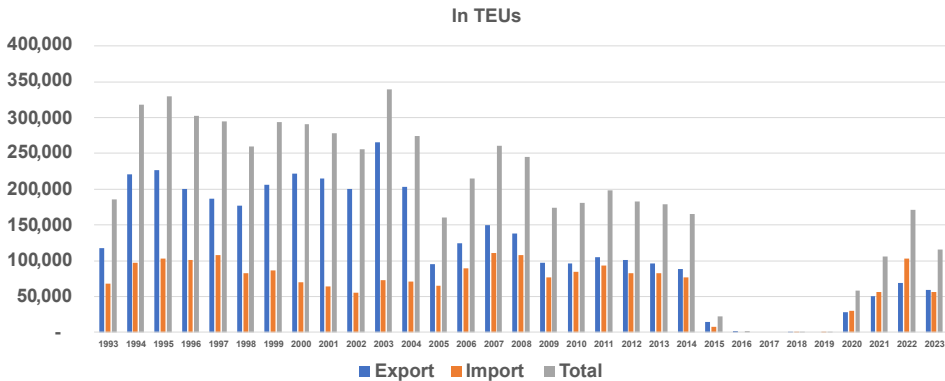


Exhibit C Port of Portland Container Traffic

Source: Port of Portland



Portland continues to operate T6.

In a January 16 letter to members of the Legislative Joint Committee on Ways and Means of the Oregon Legislature, Curtis Robinhold, the Port’s executive director, requested a \$10 million infusion of state funds: “This practice has never been financially sustainable. Facing a projected loss of \$14 million this year, we are requesting necessary gap funding as we negotiate rate increases with carriers and seek a third-party terminal operator for a long-term lease.”

He warned that “without other funding to offset ongoing losses associated with container operations, we *will be forced to begin conversations about ending container service at T6*”. [Italics added.] The Port’s request was later pared down to \$8 million.

The Port justified its requested bailout by citing the Port’s role in supporting the local and regional economy. “Container operations at T6 are important for Oregon businesses and our region’s economy, and that’s why we’ve continued doing everything



Commentary

Continued

possible to maintain container service. We remain committed to working with our shipping community, with other industry stakeholders and with state leaders as we determine what's next," Keith Leavitt, Port chief trade and economic development officer, told a reporter at *Transport Topics*.

In a March 13 statement provided by the Port, Mr. Leavitt confirmed that the Port had "endured losses of more than \$30 million from container operations over the past three years, including a projected \$14 million shortfall in the current fiscal year."

Voicing an optimistic outlook, Leavitt went on to say "we remain focused on securing a long-term lease with a third-party operating partner, following the model used by other container terminals up and down the West Coast."

Indeed, this would seem to be the only viable pathway forward. For, even though the Port's financial request was pared back to \$8 million, the Port's bid for a state subsidy went unrewarded.

In a March 11 letter signed by both the Speaker of the Oregon House of Representatives and the President of the State Senate, the legislative leaders acknowledged the role of T6 in supporting the state's economy, but they also recognized "the unique challenges Terminal 6 faces, including the region's small import market compared to other West Coast Ports, and Portland's distance from the ocean". The door was not completely shut: "while we were unable to allocate the \$8 million in funding requested during the 2024 legislative session,



Finetooth, CC BY-SA 3.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>>, via Wikimedia Commons

we commit to continue conversations for opportunities of funding." Still, the letter ended with an implicit challenge: "the State is more likely to offer funding if the Port has signed contracts with new shippers."

That, as everyone knows, is likely to be a tall order. At the moment, the Port's container trade involves a South Korean carrier, SM Line, which currently serves the Port via its China Pacific Express (CPX) service. Any efforts to attract other carriers might put it in direct competition with the much larger and more strategically located Northwest Seaport Alliance Ports of Tacoma and Seattle.

For Portland, the problem is that both of those Ports are currently handling far fewer containerized cargos than they had in the years prior to the COVID pandemic. Last year, the NWSA Ports handled 21.3% fewer inbound loads and 35.5% fewer outbound loads than they had in 2019. Both, though, are far better suited by geography and infrastructure to handle the post-panamax vessels favored by ocean carriers.

The clear implication of that last sentence in the legislators' letter is that,

absent the emergence of new ocean carriers to move containers through T6, the Legislature would be no more willing to underwrite the Port's container operations than it was during its now concluded session, during which it did manage to appropriate \$10 million to dredge the navigation channel at Coos Bay.

While the end of containerized trade through the Port of Portland is not entirely inevitable, it does increasingly appear to be the most likely outcome.

Even so, international trade will still be conducted through the Port. Statistics provided by the U.S. Commerce Department show that containerized trade represents a minority share of the Port's overall maritime business. Last year, for example, just 12.0% of total tonnage of international trade through the Port was containerized. By value, containers carried 24.0% of the \$9.981 billion in merchandise that passed through the Port last year. Airborne shipments from Portland International Airport (PDX) accounted for just under half of the dollar value of Oregon's merchandise export trade.

Still, a loss of container service



Commentary

Continued

will disrupt existing patterns of goods movement and will result in added costs to importers/exporters and their clients. A rejigging of Portland's existing supply chains will then ensue, and that may be a beneficial outcome if it brings hitherto ignored logistical efficiencies into play. The end of containerized shipping at T6 may not necessarily mean the end of containerized shipping at Portland.

Could there have been a worse outcome for the Port of Portland?

Well, it could have been named the Port of Calais.

How's that?

While most Oregonians were probably taught in grade school the tale of how Portland, Oregon got its name, here's the short version. Two guys from New England flipped a coin for the privilege of naming what was then locally known as "Stumptown" after their respective hometowns, and the guy from Portland, Maine won.

Well, not so fast. True, there was a coin toss. The flip involved two business partners, Asa Lovejoy of Boston and Francis Pettygrove of Calais,

Maine. In 1843, the two had established a land claim some fourteen miles upriver from the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia Rivers. As the settlement took shape, it became clear it would need a name. So at a dinner one night in the home of one Francis Ermatinger in nearby Oregon City, Lovejoy and Pettygrove hit upon a game of chance to determine the town's name. Using a coin Pettygrove had in his pocket, they agreed to a two-out-of-three-toss contest. Boston, it would be called, if Lovejoy won. Portland, if Pettygrove won. On the third toss, Portland got its name. (The "Portland Penny" is now on display at the Oregon Historical Society.)

But wait. Although Pettygrove's wife Sophia hailed from the Maine Portland, his own connection to the city was practically non-existent. He was indeed born in Calais, a town on Maine's eastern border just across the St. Croix River from the Canadian Province of New Brunswick. But his biography next puts him in New York City, where a merchant firm dispatched the barely 20-year-old lad to open a store in far-off Oregon.

So why, at that fateful dinner 23

years later, he would opt to name Stumptown after the town after Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's hometown rather than after his own on the St. Croix is something of a mystery. Perhaps, it was because Portland, Maine was then the 25th most populous city in America. But maybe it was because Pettigrew knew that the locals back home pronounced Calais not as we pronounce the French town on the English Channel but rather as "callous", a word when used as an adjective means "unkind, cruel, and without sympathy".

Not exactly the moniker a community might aspire to. So, Portland it was and Portland it is.

Oh and there's one more thing to add here. Last year, Oregon's Port of Portland handled 116,063 TEUs. Should the container trade at T6 be suspended, then Maine's Port of Portland, which handled 44,013 TEUs last year, would inherit the bragging rights as the nation's leading (and only) container port named Portland.

It's not clear the citizens of Portland, Oregon could endure that indignity.

We Make Cargo Move



The Port OF Hueneme



Until We Meet Again

Continued from page 1

By John McLaurin, PMSA President

While I won't miss the countless hours spent in hearings, public meetings, and Zoom calls, I will miss the people – my coworkers, PMSA members, supply chain partners, policymakers, and the like. Which explains why I embarrassed myself when I started to cry when I informed my Board that I was retiring. I repeated that performance when I informed my colleagues. Retiring is easy, but saying goodbye is really hard.

We all stand on the shoulders of someone else. For me, I have had incredible mentors and support from so many people. Mike Murphy hired me right out of school – and then later again when we were both in Washington D.C. He was a person of grace and integrity.

Capt. Jerry Aspland, the former president of ARCO Marine and the California Maritime Academy, was at every twist and turn of my career – offering support and advice. I realized many years ago that the only way I could repay Capt. Aspland for his generosity was to show the same in helping others. I hope I haven't disappointed him.

And then there is G. Scott Jones of General Steamship Corporation, whose knowledge of the maritime industry and influence in West Coast organizations and issues could fill volumes, and who, as Chair of the

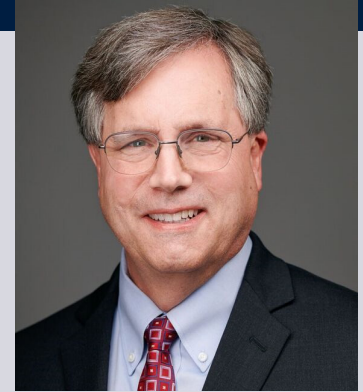
PMSA Board, hired me for this position. I shall be forever grateful for his willingness to take a chance on a young person who barely knew the pointy end of the ship from the blunt end. He taught me a lot about the industry, politics, and life, with additional lessons about courage, integrity, and even diplomacy.

So, I leave this industry with good friends, wonderful experiences, a sense of accomplishment, lots of laughter, and wonderful stories (which have become somewhat embellished over the years). The maritime industry is comprised of many different people, organizations, and segments. It is extremely creative and innovative. I have had the good fortune of making a lot of friends over the years. I have also had the opportunity to work with colleagues who are smart, talented, honest, and incredibly nice individuals. Saying goodbye to them is the most difficult of all.

To say that I have been lucky or blessed in my career would be an understatement. Thanks to the members and Board of Directors of PMSA, my colleagues, and friends for such a wonderful career. I wish you as much joy, health, happiness, and love in your lives as I have in mine.

A hui hou.

NUMBER OF THE MONTH



1995

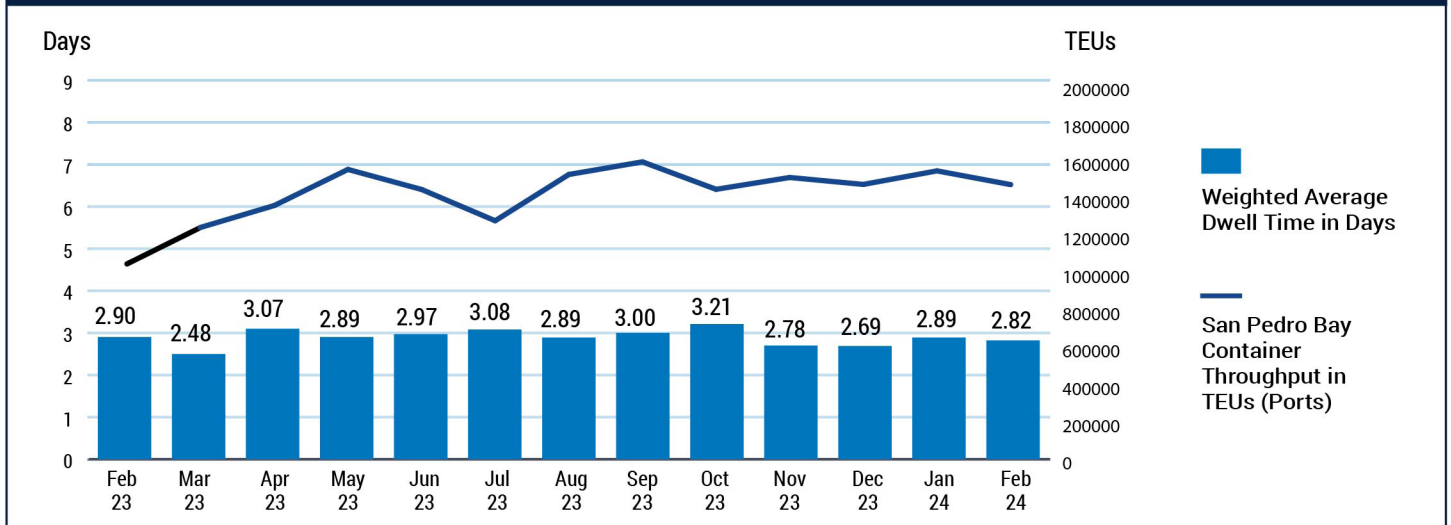
THE YEAR
JOHN MCLAURIN
TOOK OVER AS
PRESIDENT
OF PMSA

*THANK YOU,
JOHN FOR YOUR
29 YEARS OF
DEDICATION AND
SERVICE.*

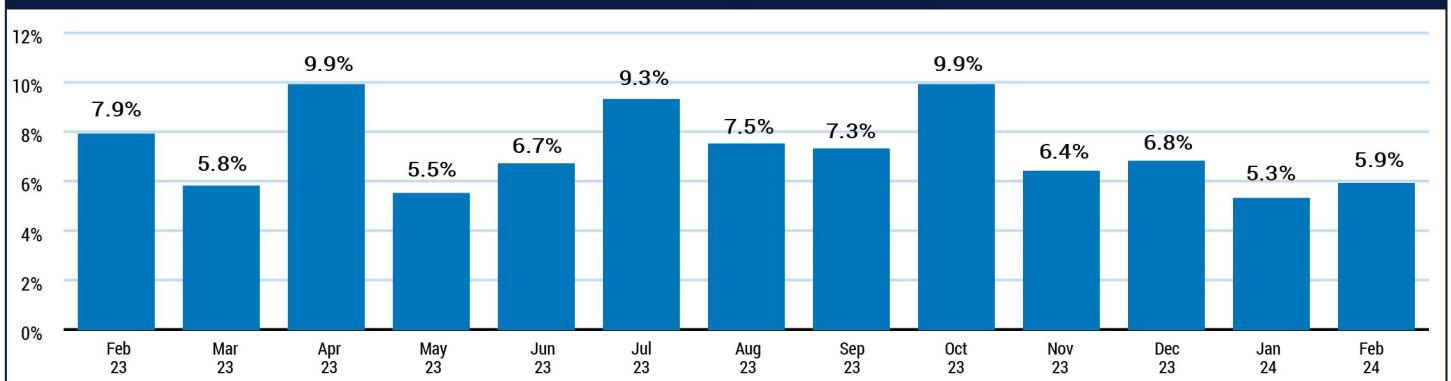


Container Dwell Time for February Remains Steady, While Rail Dwell Time Continues to Rise

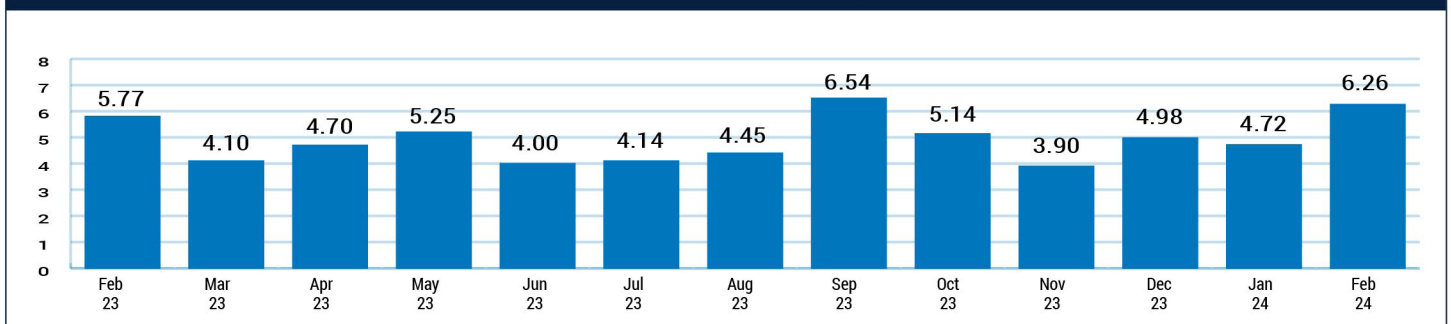
San Pedro Bay Weighted Average Inbound Laden Container Dwell Time in Days



Dwell Time in Days % > 5 Days



Rail Dwell Time in Days



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PUGET SOUND PILOTAGE DISTRICT ACTIVITY REPORT PAGE 1

Mar-2024

The Board of Pilotage Commissioners (BPC) requests the following information be provided to the BPC staff **no later than two working days prior to a BPC meeting** to give Commissioners ample time to review and prepare possible questions regarding the information provided.

Activity

Total pilotage assignments:	636	Cancellations:		10					
Total ship moves:	626	Cont'r:	163	Tanker:	244	Genl/Bulk:	115	Other:	104
Assignments delayed due to unavailable rested pilot:			4			Total delay time:	4.5	hours	
Assignments delayed for efficiency reasons:			11			Total delay time:	15	hours	
Billable delays by customers:			54			Total delay time:	135		
Order time changes by customers:			179						
2 pilot jobs:	38	Reason:	PSP GUIDELINES FOR RESTRICTED WATERWAYS						
Day of week & date of highest number of assignments:	SAT, 3/2/24							35	
Day of week & date of lowest number of assignments:	SUN, 3/3/24							11	
Total number of pilot repositions	107	Upgrade trips	13	YTD	50				
3 consecutive night assignments:	41	YTD	102						

Callback Days/Comp Days

	Starting Total	Call Backs (+)	Used (-)	Burned (-)	Ending Total
Licensed	2632	83	48		2667
Unlicensed					0
Total	2632				2667
On watch assignments	543	Call back assignments	93	CBJ ratio	14.62%

Pilots Out of Regular Dispatch Rotation (pilot not available for dispatch during "regular" rotation)

A. Training & Continuing Education Programs

Start Dt	End Dt	City	Facility	Program Description	Pilot Attendees
1-Mar	3-Mar	Sydney AU	Port Ash	Manned Model	CAW(off 3)
14-Mar	15-Mar	Seattle	PMI	Azipod	BOZ(off 1, on 1*), MIL(off 2), VEL(off 2)
1-Mar	31-Mar			Upgrade Assignments On Duty	MIE (2*), MIL (1*), MCG (1*), RID (1*), SEA (1*).
1-Mar	31-Mar			Upgrade Assignments Off Duty	MAN (3), NIN (3), MCG (1)
					*On watch Off watch ** paired to assign.
					7 15

B. Board, Committee & Key Government Meetings (BPC, PSP, USCG, USACE, Port & similar)

Start Dt	End Dt	City	Group	Meeting Description	Pilot Attendees
4-Mar	4-Mar	Everett	PSP	Outreach	BOZ*
4-Mar	4-Mar	Seattle	PSP	CETACEAN	SEA
6-Mar	6-Mar	Seattle	USCG	FCP	COL
7-Mar	7-Mar	Seattle	PSP	REFMAN	LOB*, SCS*, SID, STA*
8-Mar	8-Mar	Port Angeles	PSP	Outreach	MYE**
10-Mar	11-Mar	Seattle	BPC	BPC Exam	BEN(off 2), GRK(off 2), SCR(on 2*)
11-Mar	11-Mar	Seattle	BPC	BPC Exam	ANT, KNU
11-Mar	11-Mar	Seattle	BPC	OTSC	HUP*

pg 2, B. Board, Committee & Key Government Meetings (BPC, PSP, USCG, USACE, Port & similar)

Start Dt	End Dt	City	Group	Meeting Description	Pilot Attendees			
11-Mar	11-Mar	Seattle	PSP	Ladder Safety	HAM*			
11-Mar	11-Mar	Seattle	PSP	Rate Committee	GRK, KLA, KNU, MCG			
12-Mar	12-Mar	Seattle	BPC	BPC Exam	BEN, GRK, SCR*			
12-Mar	12-Mar	Seattle	PSP	PMSA	KLA, MCG*			
12-Mar	14-Mar	San Francisco	PSP	WC Pilot Conference	KNU(off 2, on 1*)			
12-Mar	16-Mar	San Francisco	PSP	WC Pilot Conference	GRK(off 2, on 3*)MCG(on 5*), SLI(off 5)			
14-Mar	16-Mar	Vallejo	PSP	Outreach WMLC	KNU(on 3*)			
16-Mar	16-Mar	Port Townsend	PSP	Maritime Career Fair	MIL, SCS			
17-Mar	18-Mar	Seattle	PSP	Administrative	GRK(on 2*)			
18-Mar	18-Mar	Port Angeles	PSP	Ladder Safety	HAM*, KEP			
18-Mar	18-Mar	Port Angeles	BPC	BPC Prep, combine w Ladder Safety	ANT*, BEN, KNU*			
19-Mar	19-Mar	Vancouver WA	PSP	ATC Conference	HUP*			
19-Mar	19-Mar	Seattle	PSP	Outreach	MEL			
20-Mar	20-Mar	Seattle	BPC	TEC	ANT*, BEN*, NIN			
21-Mar	21-Mar	Seattle	BPC	BPC	ANT*, BEN*, KNU*			
23-Mar	25-Mar	Seattle	PSP	Administrative	GRK(on 3*)			
25-Mar	25-Mar	Des Moines	PSP	Outreach	STA, VON*			
25-Mar	25-Mar	Seattle	PSP	Administrative	VON*			
25-Mar	25-Mar	Seattle	PSP	Safe Practices	BOU, GAL*, HUP, JEN, MIL, MOO, SEM			
26-Mar	26-Mar	Seattle	PSP	BOD	BOU*, GRK*, HAM, HUP, KLA*, MCG*, MYE			
26-Mar	27-Mar	Seattle	USCG	MERPAC	COL(off 2)			
26-Mar	26-Mar	Seattle	PSP	General Membership	GRK*			
27-Mar	27-Mar	Seattle	PSP	Administrative	GRK*			
27-Mar	27-Mar	Seattle	PSP	HSC, PACMAR	KAL			
28-Mar	28-Mar	Seattle	PSP	Rate Committee	GRK*, KLA*, KNU*, MCG			
28-Mar	28-Mar	Seattle	PSP	Pension Committee	GRD, GRK*, MIE*, MIL*			
29-Mar	29-Mar	Seattle	PSP	UTC	KLA, MCG			
29-Mar	29-Mar	Seattle	PSP	Evergreen/Blair ww	KLA			
					* On Watch	Off Watch	** paired to assign.	
					50	49	1	

PUGET SOUND PILOTAGE DISTRICT ACTIVITY REPORT PAGE 2

Safety/Regulatory	
• Adverse Effects: • Common: Headache, dizziness, nausea, constipation, dry mouth, fatigue, weight gain. • Less Common: Blurred vision, difficulty swallowing, muscle pain, changes in voice. • Rare: Allergic reactions (rash, hives, swelling), severe dizziness, changes in heart rate.	• Contraindications: • Absolute: Known hypersensitivity to the drug or its components. • Relative: Pregnancy (Category C), breastfeeding, concurrent use of certain medications (e.g., blood thinners, antidepressants).

Outreach

Administrative

C. Other (i.e. injury, not-fit-for-duty status, COVID risk)

Start Dt	End Dt	REASON	PILOT
1-Mar	31-Mar	NFFD	SES

Number of assignments during the 12 months prior to setting the number of pilots at 56 at the July 2019 065 hearing.

7.101

Number of assignments during the last 12 months (April 2023-March 2024).

7,358

Puget Sound District Activity Report Dashboard

2024 March

Licensed Pilots
Including President

55

PS District
Trainees

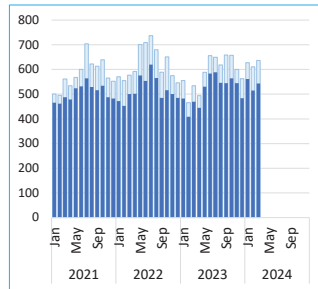
5

Capt. M. Mancini (#226) licensed on March 21st, increasing licensed PS pilot count to 55.

Capt. W. Kelly (#227) completed training in March, will be licensed April 2nd, bringing count to 56.

Total Assignments

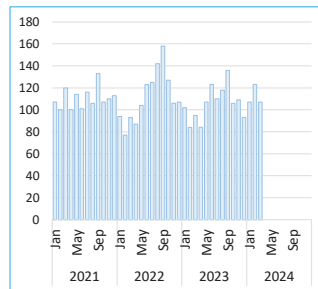
636



543 On-Watch (dark blue), 93 Off-Watch (light blue)

Repositions

107



Licensed Pilots w/o Pres 54

Pilots NFFD entire month 1

Available Pilots 53

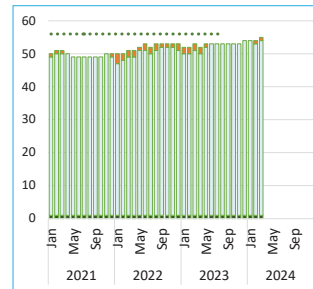
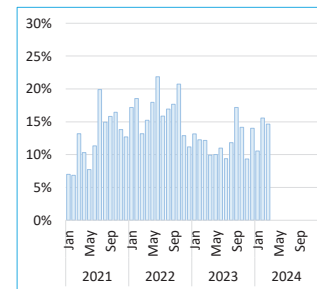


chart also includes president (1 pilot)

Off-Watch Assignments

(Callbacks)

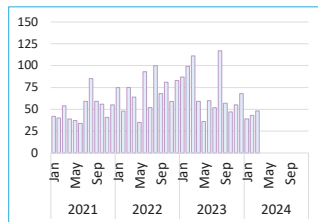
15%



Comp Days Used

(Licensed Pilots)

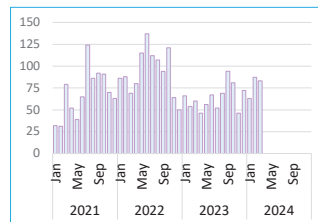
48



Comp Days Earned

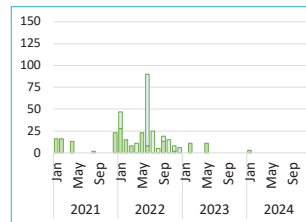
(Callbacks)

83



COVID Days* 0

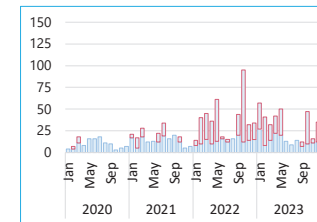
NFFD Days* 0



count of NFFD days if pilot(s)
not NFFD whole month

Training Days 9

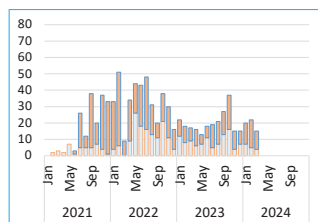
Upgrade Trips 13



training days (red) stacked
on upgrade trips (blue)

Pilot Delays (Count)
combined total

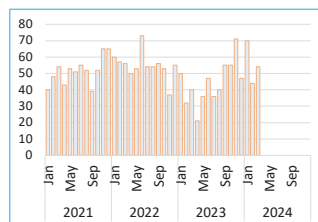
15



efficiency delay counts stacked on top
of pilot shortage delay counts on bottom

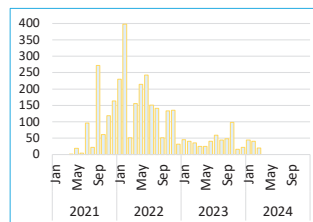
Billable Delays (Count)
by Customers

54



Pilot Delay Hours
(Pilot Shortage & Efficiency)

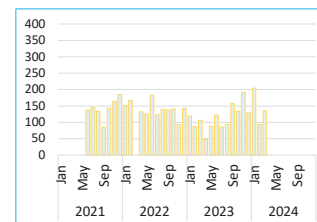
19.5 hrs



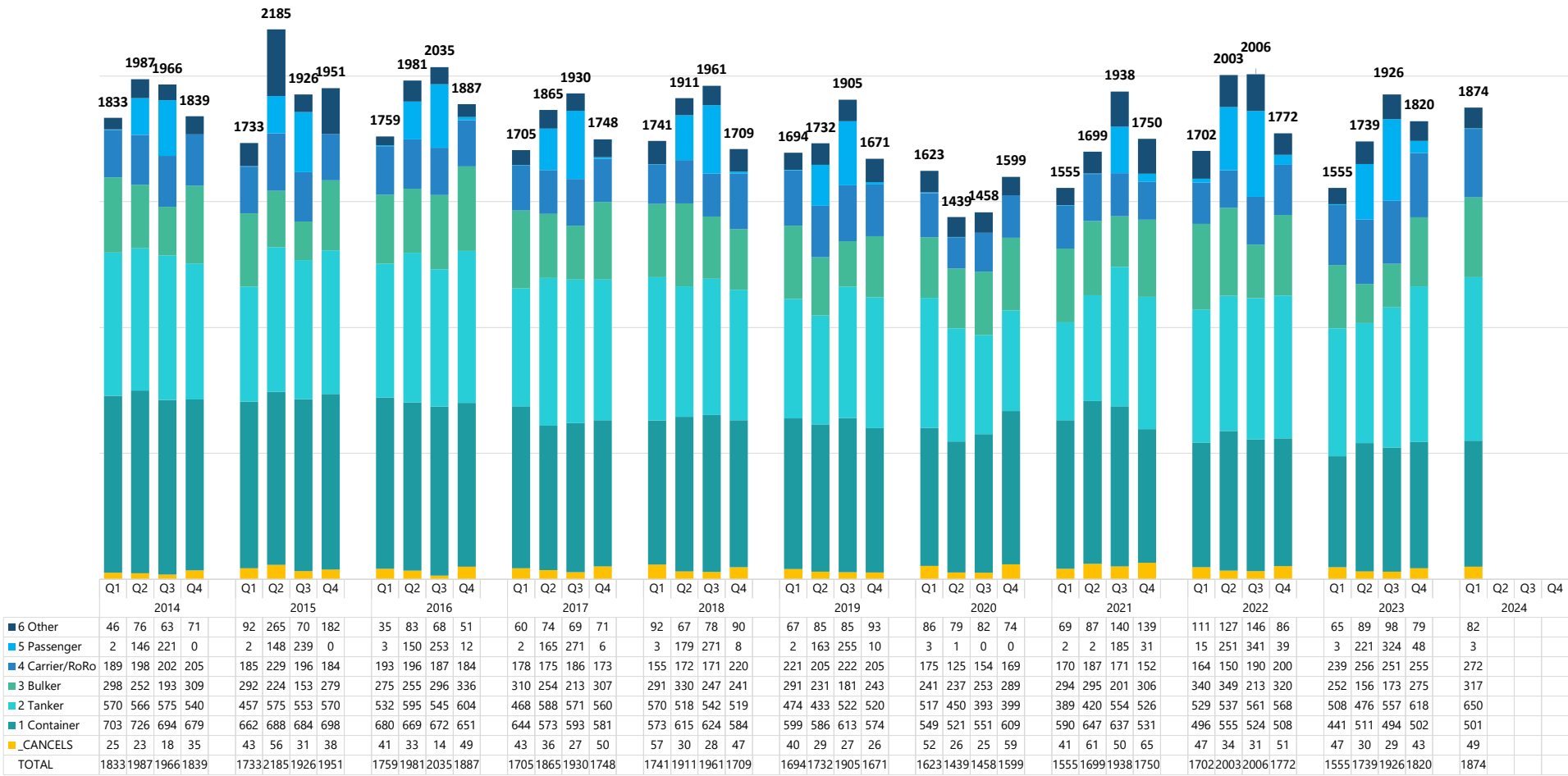
total pilot delay hours (not separated into
efficiency & pilot shortage components)

Billable Delay Hours
by Customers

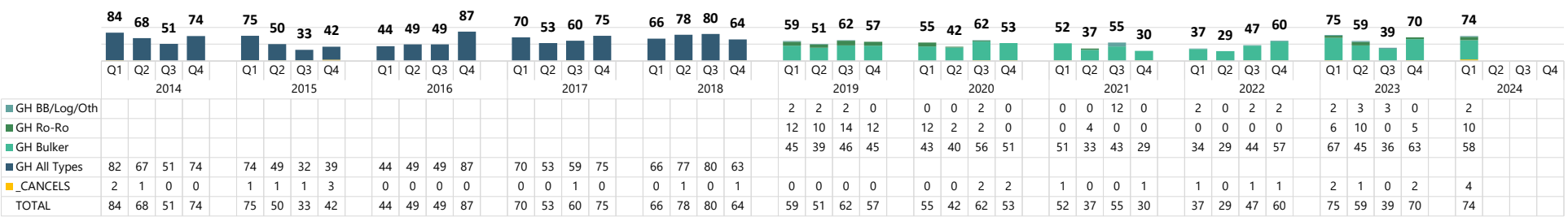
135 hrs



Puget Sound Pilotage District Assignments 2014-2024
quarterly, by vessel type, including cancellations



Grays Harbor Pilotage District Assignments 2014-2024
quarterly, by vessel type when available, including cancellations





To: Sheri J. Tonn

From: Brian Spillane

Re: Matson Vessels Marine Safety Occurrence Reports

Date: April 8, 2024

Dear Ms. Tonn,

I am writing on behalf of Matson Navigation Company, Inc., a container ship company dedicated to ensuring safe and efficient vessel operations within the Puget Sound region. Matson Vessel Operations and Engineering understand the significance of proactive measures in mitigating risks and enhancing the safety of maritime operations. As stakeholders committed to maritime safety, we want to communicate the measures we adhere to for continued maintenance and safety of vessels.

Our preventive measures encompass several key areas:

Training and Education: We prioritize ongoing training programs for our crew members and personnel, ensuring they are well-versed in safety protocols, emergency procedures, and navigation best practices. This commitment to education fosters a robust culture of safety and preparedness among our team.

Regular Maintenance and Inspections: We incorporate all scheduled and condition-based maintenance mandated by our original equipment manufacturers (OEM). We adhere strictly to this rigorous maintenance schedule for all vessels under our operation. This includes routine inspections, servicing of equipment, and adherence to industry standards to ensure optimal vessel performance and seaworthiness.

Technological Integration: Embracing technological advancements, we have integrated cutting-edge navigation systems, monitoring tools, and communication equipment aboard our vessels. These technologies enhance situational awareness, facilitate timely decision-making, and contribute to safer navigation practices.

Audits: Matson maintains a robust internal and external auditing department. Our Safety, Quality, Environment, and Security (SQES) conducts multiple audits yearly to ensure compliance with our strict standards. Matson is certified to the following requirements:

- The International Safety Management (ISM) Code
- The voluntary ISO 9001 Quality Management Systems and ISO 14001 Environmental Management System standards
- The ISM Safety, Quality and Environmental Management (SQE) program
- The cybersecurity standards of ISO 27001, NIST 800-53, and DFARS 252.204-7012 standards

Emergency Response Preparedness: Recognizing the unpredictable nature of maritime operations, we have developed robust emergency response plans and conduct regular drills to ensure swift and effective responses to unforeseen incidents. By prioritizing preparedness, we aim to minimize the impact of emergent incidents and safeguard lives, property, and the marine environment.



We are committed to maintaining open channels of communication with the Puget Sound Pilot Commission. Together, we can continue to uphold the highest standards of safety and integrity in maritime operations within the Puget Sound region.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian Spillane". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brian J. Spillane

Director, Vessel & Chartering Operations



April 4, 2024

Dear Chair Tonn:

Puget Sound Pilots requests a hearing at the July 18, 2024, meeting of the Washington Board of Pilotage Commissioners to address the number of pilots pursuant to WAC 363-116-065 and to establish a target assignment level to optimize the operation of a safe, fully regulated, efficient, and competent pilotage service. PSP believes that pilot workload and ship traffic necessitates this evaluation to address both pilot fatigue management demands and stubbornly high numbers of callback jobs in the Puget Sound pilotage district.

At the July 2019 meeting of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners, the board voted to examine the definitions of a pilot assignment, target assignment level, and workload while considering the fatigue management recommendations offered by recognized national fatigue management experts. PSP believes that the time is ripe for an 065 hearing as the BPC authorized 56 pilots in 2019 and PSP only attained that number yesterday.

Thank you so much and look forward to talking with you soon.

Sincerely,

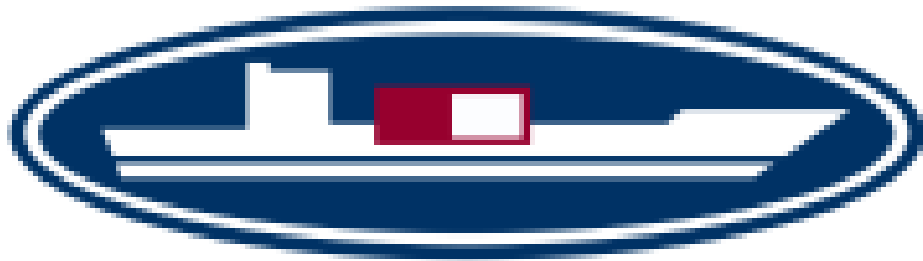
Charles Costanzo
Executive Director
Puget Sound Pilots



2003 Western Ave.
Suite 200
Seattle, WA 98121

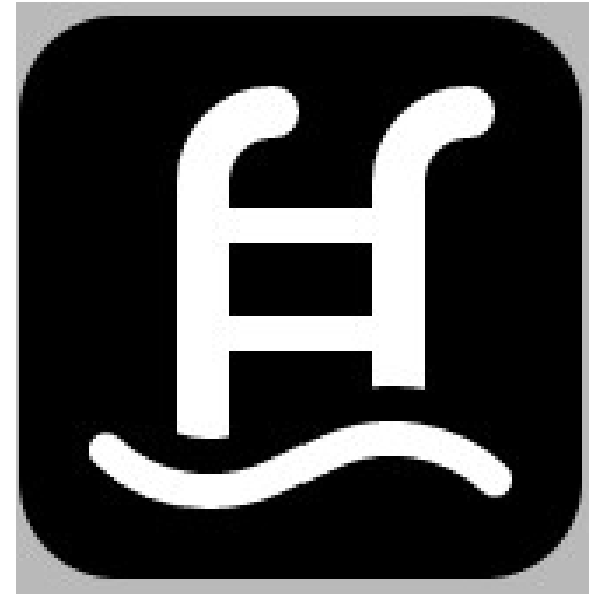
PHONE (206) 728-6400
EMAIL info@pspilots.org
WEBSITE www.pspilots.org

PSP Ladder Safety

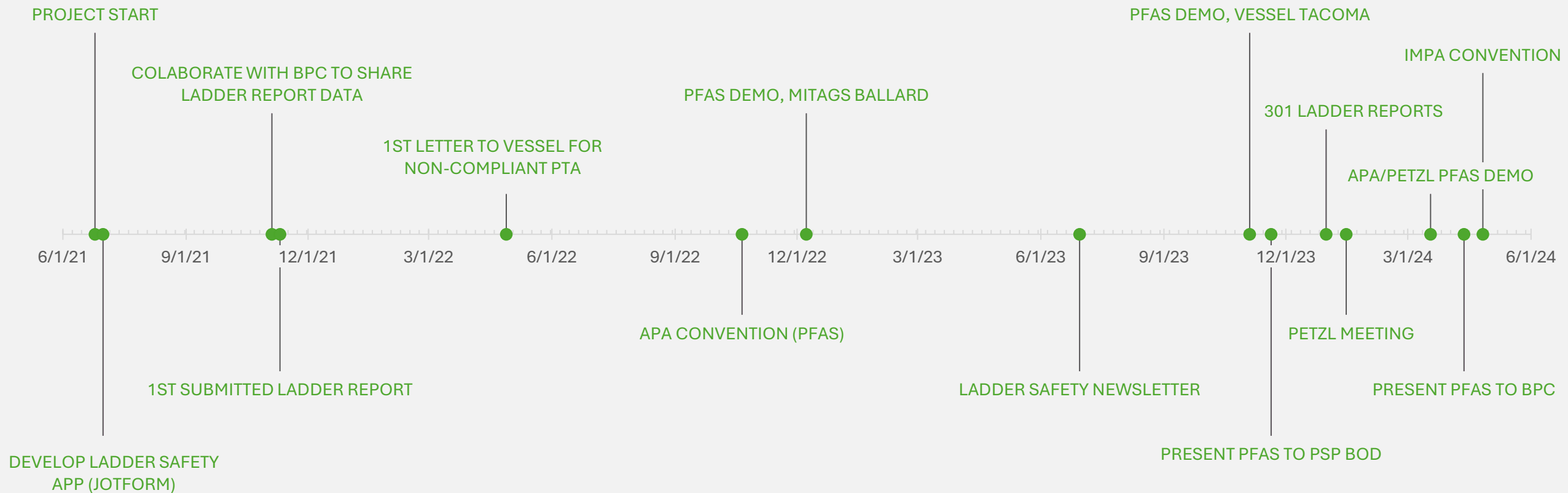


PUGET SOUND PILOTS

Protecting Puget Sound Since 1935



Ladder Safety Milestones



Pilot Fall Arrest System (PFAS)

PSP Demo

with American Pilots Association,
Maryland Pilots, Arrow Launch, and
PETZL (provider of the gear)

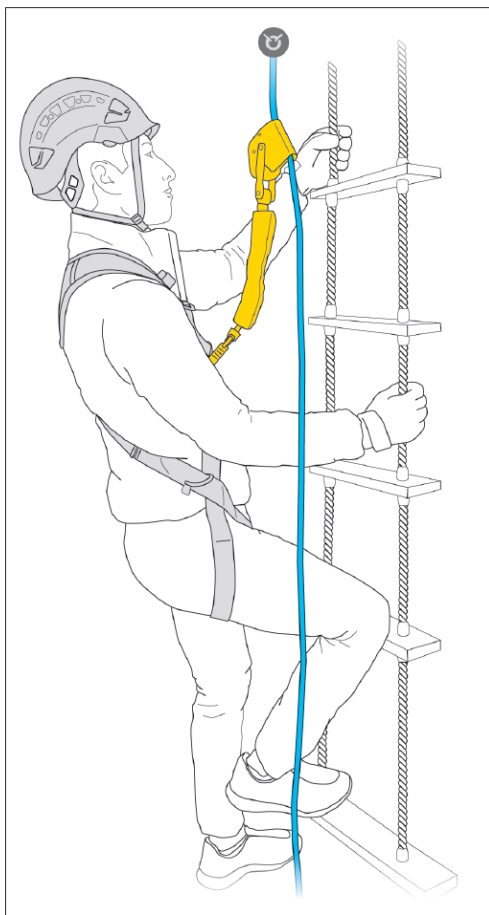


PUGET SOUND PILOTS

Protecting Puget Sound Since 1935



Maritime Pilot Ladder Fall Protection Kit



Petzl's **Maritime Pilot Ladder Fall Protection Kit** is a temporary vertical lifeline system certified under the ANSI Z359.15 standard and designed to protect a user during ladder climbing and descending should a fall occur.

When properly installed and used, the ASAP LOCK mobile fall arrester moves freely along the lifeline without any manual intervention and follows the user in their movements up and down a ladder. In case of shock or sudden movement, the ASAP LOCK locks on the rope, stopping a fall and suspending the user.

Kit Components:

This kit is comprised of several Petzl products (see following pages for full component details)

Vertical Lifeline System

- 100' rope
- Mobile fall arrester
- Energy absorber
- Carabiners with positioning bars
- Anchor cable
- Rope weight
- Rope bag

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Options

- Fall arrest harness
- Vented helmet
- Gloves
- Headlamp

Contact

801.926.1500 | professionalsales@petzl.com
www.petzl.com

Reference the "Maritime Pilot Ladder Fall Protection Kit"

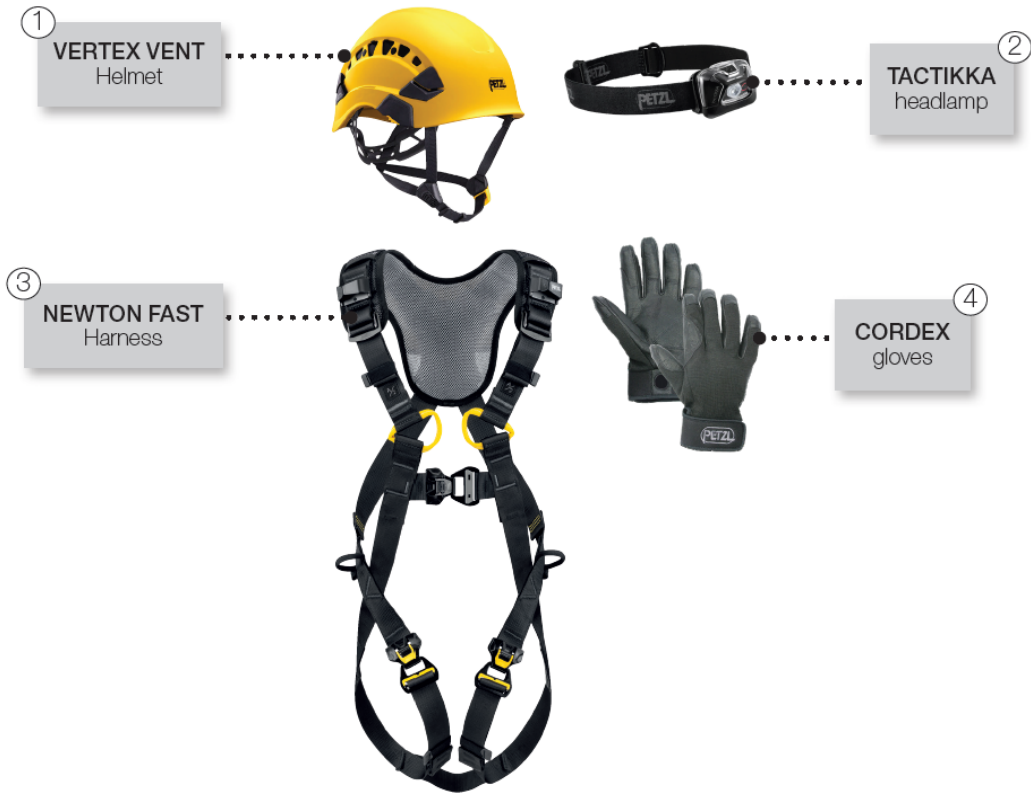
Vertical Lifeline System - Overview



#	Product	SKU	Description	Qty	MSRP
1	RAY 11	R100BA03	static rope with sewn termination for use with ASAP/LOCK, 100 ft	1	\$131.95
2	ASAP LOCK	B071BA00	mobile fall arrester with locking function	1	\$214.95
3	ASAP'SORBER 20	L071AA00	energy absorber for use with ASAP/LOCK, 20 cm	1	\$44.95
4	Bm'D	M032AA00	H-frame carabiner, TRIACT-LOCK gate	2	\$49.50
5	CAPTIV	M093BA00	positioning bar for connector	1	\$3.95
6	PIPE BALLAST	F001AA00	rope weight to straighten lifeline when in use	1	\$27.95
7	WIRE STROP	G200AA03	galvanized steel anchor cable, 200 cm	1	\$49.95
8	BUCKET	S41AY 025	25 L rope bag, yellow	1	\$59.95



All vertical lifeline systems are not specifically designed to facilitate nor reduce the risk associated with workers transferring from vessel to vessel. These systems are only intended to protect workers once they are actually on the ladder climbing or descending and are at a risk of falling. The vessels, guardrails and other equipment and methods used to reduce the risk of possible injuries or death of a worker during vessel transfer maneuvers is beyond the scope and purpose of the Petzl Pilot Ladder Fall Protection Kit. Proper procedures and essential training to mitigate and/or control the hazards associated with worker vessel transfer fall under the sole responsibility of the worker and their employers. Petzl makes no claims or recommendations as to the use of its vertical lifeline system during worker vessel transfer operations.



#	Product	SKU	Description	Qty	MSRP
1	VERTEX VENT	A010CA0_	Vented helmet, ANSI (0= white, 1= yellow, 2= red, 3=black, 4=orange, 5= blue, 6 =green)	1	\$99.95
2	TACTIKKA	E093HA00	Compact headlamp, 300 lumen	1	\$29.95
3	NEWTON FAST	C073DA0_	Fall protection harness, ANSI (1=size 1, 2= size 2)	1	\$149.95
4	CORDEX	K52 _N	Lightweight gloves (S= small, M= medium, L= large, XL= extra large also available in tan)	1	\$39.95

_ = variability in sizes and colors



① **RAY 11 mm**
Static rope with sewn termination

The RAY 11 mm static rope with sewn termination is designed for use with an ASAP LOCK mobile fall arrester. It is manufactured with 100% polyester fibers, which makes it low stretch, allowing it to meet the requirements of the ANSI Z359.15 fall protection standard. EverFlex technology ensures great flexibility under any conditions (water, dust, mud...), allowing it to maintain excellent handling and optimal functioning with devices. The sewn termination with protective sheath helps keep the connector in position and facilitates handling. Rope available in two standard lengths: 50 ft & 100 ft.

② **ASAP® LOCK**
Mobile fall arrester with locking function

The ASAP LOCK mobile fall arrester is designed to facilitate handling during ladder ascents and descents. In normal use, the device moves freely along the lifeline without any manual intervention and follows the user in all his/her movements. In case of shock or sudden movement, the fall arrester locks on the rope and stops the user, even if the ASAP is grabbed during a fall. The integrated locking function prevents the rope from being blown upward. The connection arm makes the system drop-resistant.

③ **ASAP'SORBER 20**
Energy absorber

The ASAP'SORBER 20 energy absorber meets ANSI Z359.13 and it is specifically designed to be used with the ASAP LOCK mobile fall arrester. Equipped with tear-webbing inside a pouch that opens on each end, the absorber is protected from abrasion, while allowing for regular inspection. In case of a fall, the tearing of the energy absorber webbing limits the impact force on the user and the system. It is designed for users who weigh between 110 to 310 lbs (50 and 141 kg)

④ **Bm'D**
Lightweight asymmetrical high-strength carabiner

The Bm'D lightweight asymmetrical carabiner is made of aluminum and it has the TRIACT-LOCK automatic locking system. The sleeve is reinforced for greater front and lateral gate strength. The Bm'D may be used with a CAPTIV positioning bar to favor loading of the carabiner along the major axis, to limit the risk of it flipping and to keep it integrated with the device.

⑤ **CAPTIV**
Connector positioning bar

The CAPTIV positioning bar promotes loading of the carabiner on the major axis, limits the risk of rotation and keeps it integrated with the device or lanyard. The CAPTIV is compatible with Bm'D carabiners and its use is required to meet the ANSI Z359.15 standard.

⑥ **PIPE BALLAST**
Rope weight

The PIPE BALLAST is a rope weight that straightens the lifeline when used with the ASAP/LOCK. Its primary function is to help keep the lifeline taut during ascent, limiting slack in the rope and allowing freer movement of the ASAP.

⑦ **WIRE STROP**
Galvanized steel anchor cable

The WIRE STROP includes two terminations with plastic sheath of different sizes that facilitates its use in a choker configuration. The anchor cable meets the requirement of ANSI Z359.18 with a minimum breaking strength of 23 kN in either vertical, basket or choker use.

⑧ **BUCKET**
Fabric pack, remains upright

Simple and durable, the BUCKET bag allows the user to store a rope and any associated gear. It remains upright and keeps its shape, even when empty, for easy access to the contents of the bag. It is bright yellow and has a capacity of 25 liters.

PILOT FALL SAFETY LINE

ATTACH TO SHIP

1. Run strap thru pad-eye
2. Connect to hook
3. Signal boat when ready

English

附著在船上

1. 將錶帶穿過墊眼
2. 連接到掛鉤
3. 準備好時發出信號船

Chinese Traditional

ПРИКРЕПИТЬ К КОРАБЛЮ

1. Пропустите ремешок через проушину
2. Подключите к крючку
3. Сигнальный катер по готовности

Russian

जहाज से संलग्न करें

1. पैड-आई के माध्यम से पट्टा चलाएं
2. हुक से कनेक्ट करें
3. तैयार होने पर सिग्नल बोट

Hindi

ILAKIP SA BARKO

1. Patakbuhin ang strap thru pad-eye
2. Kumonekta sa kawit
3. signal boat kapag handa na

Filipino

ΠΡΟΣΑΡΤΗΣΗ ΣΤΟ ΠΛΟΙΟ

1. Εκτελέστε λουράκι μέσω pad-eye
2. Συνδέστε το με γάντζο
3. Σηματοδοτήστε το σκάφος όταν είναι έτοιμο

Greek

ANEXAR AO NAVIO

1. Corra a correia através do pad-eye
2. Conecte-se ao gancho
3. Barco de sinal quando estiver pronto

Portuguese

LAMPIRKAN KE KAPAL

1. Jalankan tali melalui pad-eye
2. Hubungkan ke hook
3. Perahu sinyal saat siap

Indonesian

선박에 부착

1. 패드 아이를 통해 스트랩을 달리십시오.
2. 후크에 연결
3. 준비되면 신호선

Korean

Run strap thru pad-eye near Pilot Ladder



CONNECT TO STRONG POINT

Set-Up Process:

- 1) Vessel sends down a heaving line.
- 2) Launch sends up PFAS Safety Line.
- 3) Ship's crew follows directions on Safety Line and attaches to strong point.

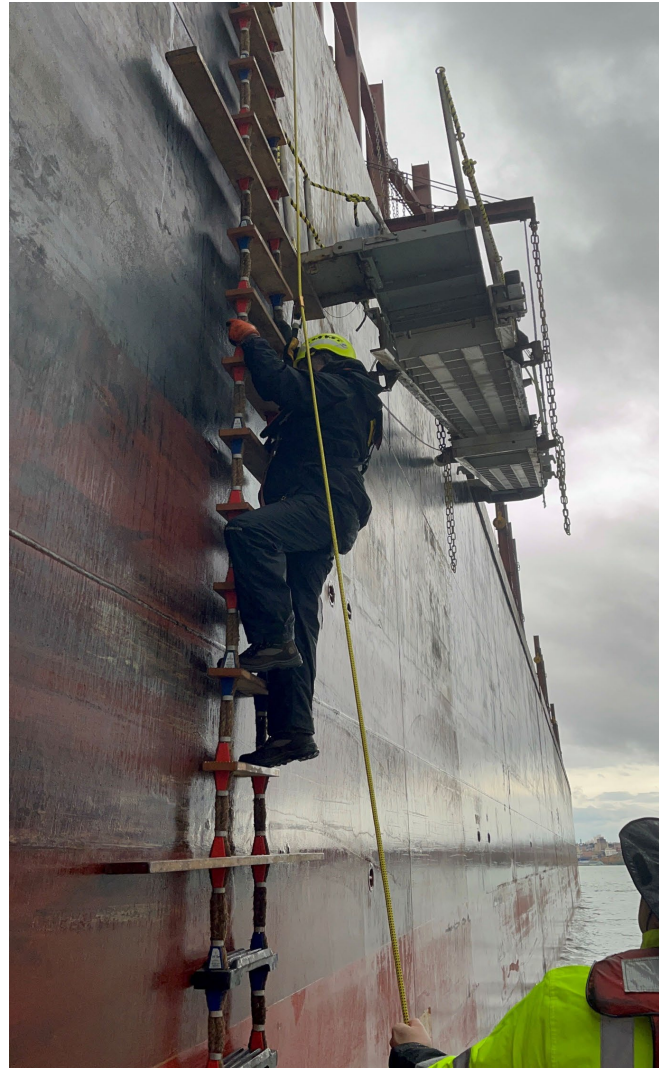




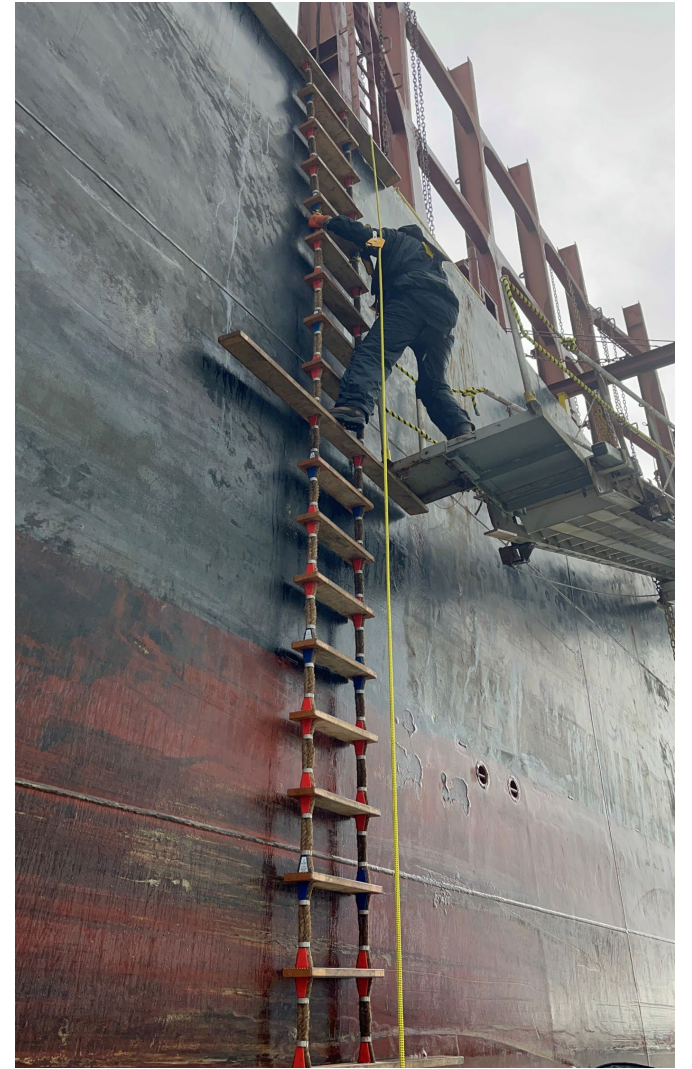
Pilot Attaches to Safety line with ASAP Lock



Pilot clips into Safety Line



Deckhand tends Safety Line



Pilot transitions from ladder

Video 1 Slide

Video 2 Slide



PFAS Demo Port Angeles March 18, 2024



**PSP, APA,
PETZL, and
Arrow Launch**



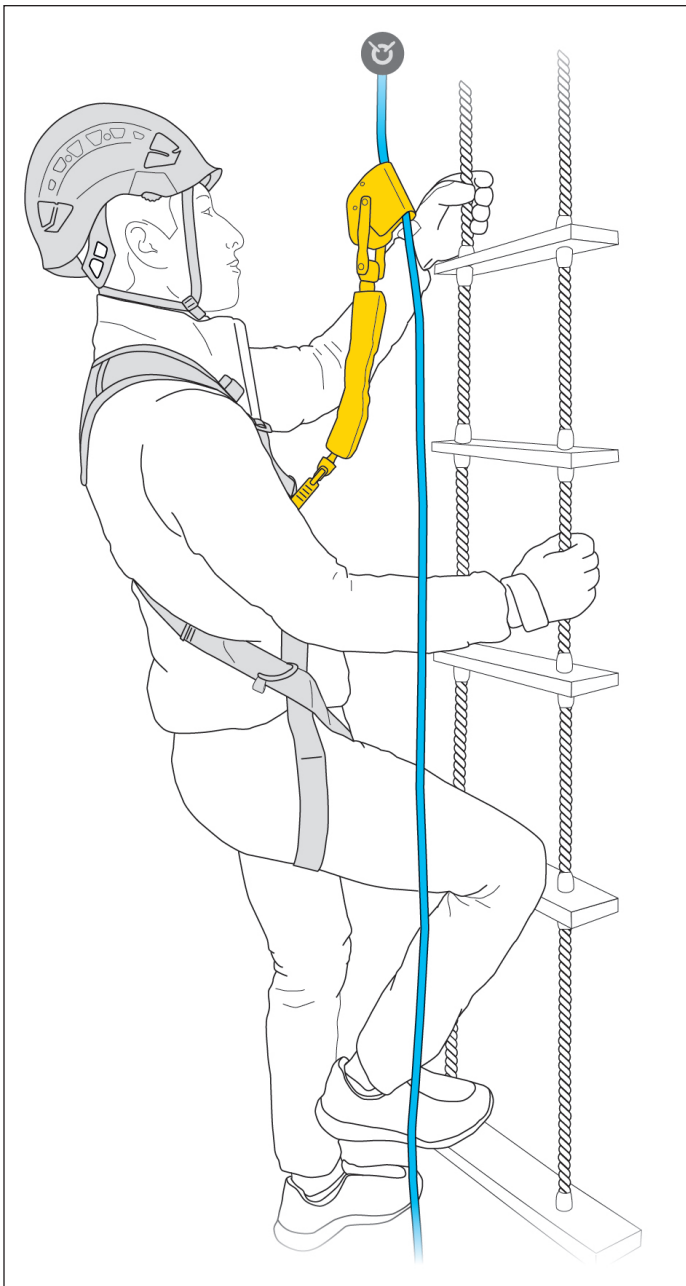


Pilot Ladder Jotform Report

<https://form.jotform.com/213005038938049>



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- Energy absorber
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- Rope weight
- Rope bag

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Options

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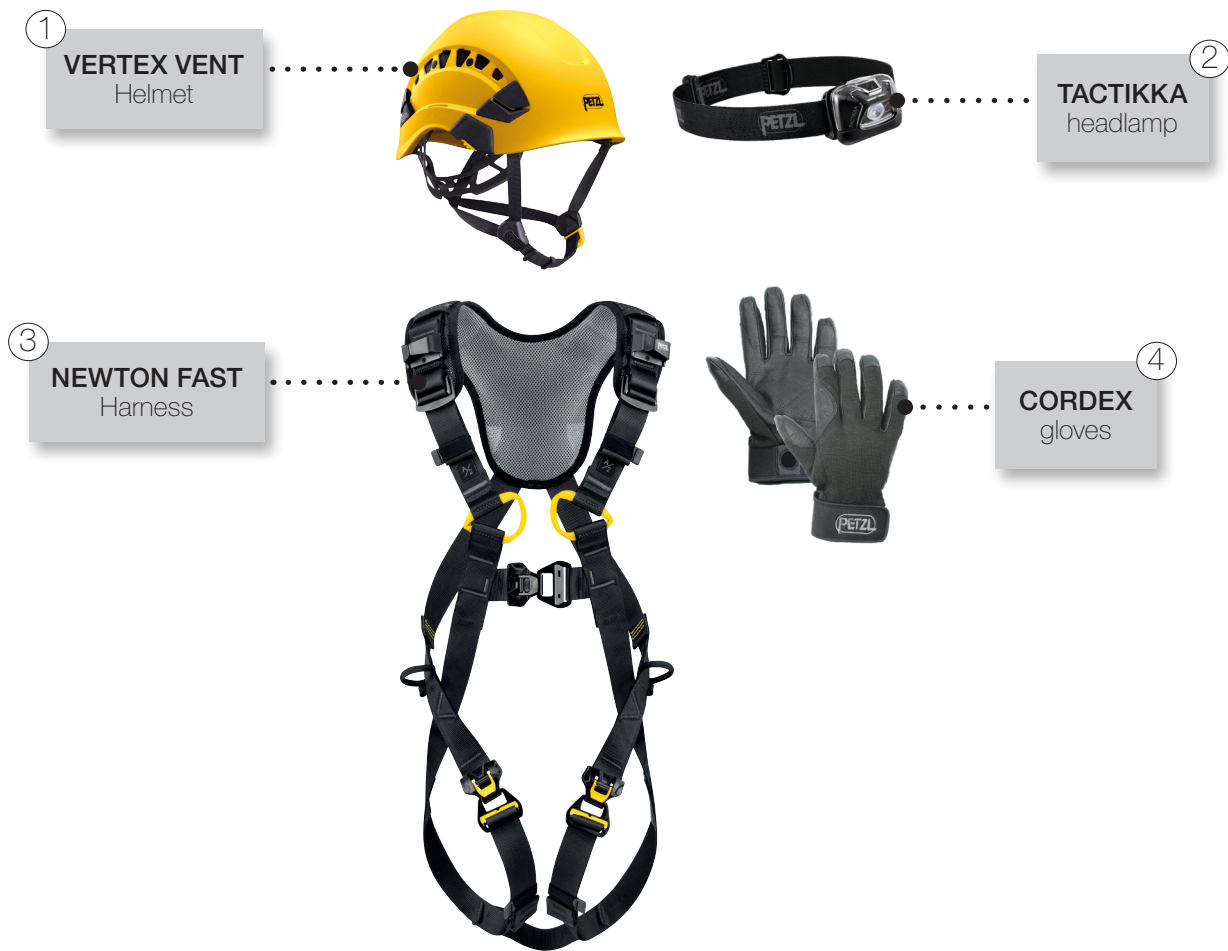
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