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Port of Milwaukee Wins Robert J. Lewis Seaway Pacesetter Award

Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) Deputy Administrator Craig Middlebrook today presented the Robert J. Lewis Pacesetter Award to the Port of Milwaukee for superior performance in the 2002 season. John Norquist, Mayor of Milwaukee, accepted the award.

“Milwaukee port management and labor have worked together to attract cargo even in tough seasons that have been the norm recently,” said Middlebrook. “In 2001 and 2002, both off years for Seaway traffic, this port managed to post gains.”

The port handled more than 3 million tons of cargo, 615,431 tons of which passed through the St. Lawrence Seaway. The major cargo carried was grain exports and bagged food products, followed by imports of cement clinker, steel and machinery.

Milwaukee was one of only four U.S. Great Lakes ports and one terminal that earned Pacesetters for the 2002 season. Other winners included Burns Harbor/Portage, IN; Port of Cleveland, OH; Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority, NY; and Lake Superior Warehousing Co. in Duluth, MN.

Competition is restricted to U.S. ports and terminals in the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System, and requires that recipients register increases in international overseas cargo tonnage shipped through the Seaway over the previous navigation season.

The award has been a fixture in the System’s maritime community since its inception in 1992. Once restricted to ports, competition was opened to U.S. Great Lakes terminals in 1999.

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