



# The Maryland Port Administration

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **STATEMENT BY MPA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JAMES J. WHITE ON 90-DAY EXTENSION IN NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN UNITED STATES MARITIME ALLIANCE AND INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN'S ASSOCIATION:**

*"The 90-day extension is a step in the right direction. We're pleased that the recent momentum at the Port of Baltimore will continue uninterrupted during this period. It is critical that both sides use this extended time wisely and continue to talk in order to make progress toward a new agreement. It is within everyone's best interests to do so."*

During the first six months of 2012, the Port of Baltimore's public marine terminals handled a record 4.83 million tons of general cargo which topped the previous record of 4.69 million tons set during the pre-recession first half of 2008. The new record was also a 10 percent jump from the first six months of 2011 when the port handled 4.38 million tons of cargo.

In 2011 the Port of Baltimore saw a 15 percent increase in cargo from 2010 which marked the greatest increase of growth by any major U.S. port. The Port's public and private marine terminals saw 37.8 million tons of cargo cross their docks in 2011, up from 32.8 million tons in 2010. The total dollar value amount of that cargo was more than \$51.4 billion, the Port's highest dollar value ever and a 24 percent jump from 2010. The port also set seven other cargo records in 2011.

The Port of Baltimore is ranked as the top port among 360 U.S. ports for handling farm and construction machinery, autos and light trucks, imported forest products, imported sugar, imported iron ore and imported gypsum. Baltimore ranks second in the U.S. for exported coal, imported salt, and imported aluminum. Overall Baltimore is ranked 11<sup>th</sup> for the total dollar value of cargo and 12<sup>th</sup> for cargo tonnage.

Business at the Port of Baltimore generates about 14,630 direct jobs, while about 108,000 jobs in Maryland are linked to port activities. The Port is responsible for \$3 billion in personal wages and salary and more than \$300 million in state and local taxes.

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Governor Martin O'Malley MDOT Acting Secretary Darrell B. Mobley MPA Executive Director James J. White

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