



MARITIME EXCHANGE

for the Delaware River and Bay

Leading the Way to Port Progress

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Paul Myhre, Director of Operations
302-218-2492
pmyhre@maritimedelriv.com

Exchange Reports 2023 Ship Arrivals

DELAWARE RIVER PORTS – The Maritime Exchange for the Delaware River and Bay today announced the tristate port vessel arrival statistics for 2023. "With the growth trend of the last five years continuing, the Delaware River port complex improved its position in the global market," said Maritime Exchange President Lisa Himber. "This gain comes even as shipping faced new challenges arising from global conflicts in Europe and the Middle East and threats from attacks in the Red Sea and from drought in the Panama Canal."

According to Maritime Exchange records, 2,410 ships arrived at Delaware River port facilities in 2023, an increase of 12 vessels over 2022.

Export cargoes led the year, with outbound wet gas ships coming in at 315, up 17% compared to 2022. Mineral exports rose by 27%, and vessels leaving with steel cargoes grew by 5%. Total exports for the region were valued at \$11.1 billion and came in at 976,064 metric tons.

On the import side, ships carrying containerized goods continued to increase year over year, finishing 2023 with 709 arrivals, an increase of 10%. Vehicle import vessel arrivals also rose, reaching 155, up 10 or 61%. The value of imported cargoes in 2023 was \$119.8 billion, including 32.2 million metric tons of goods.

"Total vessel arrivals finished strong in 2023," Himber said. "With new service in the region, increasingly larger ships, and a number of infrastructure projects underway throughout the area, we're optimistic for a positive 2024 as well."

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The Maritime Exchange is a nonprofit trade association representing port- and related businesses throughout southeastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey, and Delaware. Since its establishment in 1872, the Maritime Exchange has been the primary information provider and port advocate, working closely with federal, state, and local government agencies as well as the tristate federal Congressional delegation to promote commerce along the Delaware River and Bay.