



Port Container Volumes Drop in May Imports down, exports nearly flat compared to a year ago

June 14, 2012

Overall container traffic at the Port of Long Beach dropped 7.2 percent in May compared to the same period a year ago, with imports down 9.2 percent and exports down 0.8 percent.

Last month, Port terminals handled 497,892 TEUs, or twenty-foot equivalent container units, compared to 536,686 TEUs in May 2011. Imports containers accounted for 249,937 TEUs, compared to 275,100 TEUs in May 2011. Exports accounted for 129,083 TEUs, compared to 130,161 TEUs a year ago.

Calendar year to date, overall container traffic at the Port is down 6.1 percent through May. The decrease in volumes is partly due to the elimination of several niche service strings that had called at the Port last year.

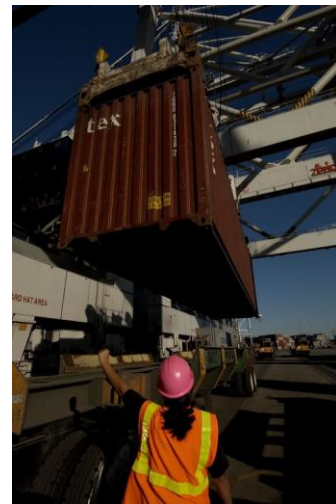
As we enter the cargo peak season in the latter summer months, some business is returning to the Port, however. Three new strings of vessels from Asia began calling on Long Beach in late May. Combined, the three services are expected to add as much as 500,000 TEUs through the remainder of the calendar year.

Empty container moves were down 9.6 percent to 118,872 TEUs in May compared to 131,420 TEUs in May 2011. Empty containers are sent overseas to be refilled with goods.

For the latest monthly cargo numbers [click here](#).

For more details on the cargo numbers visit www.polb.com/stats.

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