



## News

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### **Seaway Presents Robert J. Lewis Pacesetter Award to Ports of Indiana Burns Harbor**

Posting a three percent increase in international tonnage has earned the Port of Indiana-Burns Harbor the prestigious *Robert J. Lewis Pacesetter Award* given by the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC). Deputy Administrator Craig Middlebrook presented the award to port officials today at an international logistics symposium in Indianapolis, IN.

“The Port of Indiana-Burns Harbor showed once again that despite a difficult economic picture, ports displaying rigorous management practices will post numbers in the black,” said Deputy Administrator Middlebrook. “This award recognizes the port’s hard work, proven management skills and tireless commitment to meet its customer’s needs while giving them safe, efficient, reliable and cost competitive service.”

Burns Harbor posted a three percent jump in international tonnage handled in 2002 over the previous season with a final figure of more than one million net tons. The numbers exceeded all other U.S. Great Lakes ports in tonnage shipped through the Seaway, a performance that garnered the port its third consecutive *Pacesetter* and sixth overall.

The *Robert J. Lewis Pacesetter Award* is presented annually to the U.S. Great Lakes Seaway ports and port terminals that register increases in international overseas cargo tonnage shipped through the Seaway over the previous navigation season. For the 2002 season, only three other ports—Cleveland, Milwaukee, and Ogdensburg, NY—accomplished this feat, along with one terminal, Lake Superior Warehousing Company, in Duluth, MN.

“The Port of Indiana-Burns Harbor has established itself as the top U.S. port for international shipping on the Great Lakes,” said William D. Friedman, executive director of the Ports of Indiana. “The port is located right in the heart of America’s premier manufacturing and agricultural region. We also have a great labor force, top-notch terminal management and an excellent working relationship among all parties at the port.”

Originally known as the *Pacesetter Award*, its name was officially changed to honor the contributions made by former longtime SLSDC trade development specialist Robert J. Lewis. 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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