



Port E-News

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Wallenius Wilhelmsen's New Service to the Middle East To Include the Port of Galveston New Service Will Also Feature Transfer Operations at Galveston

The Port of Galveston will be part of a new service offered by Wallenius Wilhelmsen Lines to the Middle East from U.S. Gulf and East Coast ports beginning in the first quarter of 2004. This new service compliments existing services from Galveston to North Europe and the East Coast of South America.

Additionally, using Wallenius Wilhelmsen's global network, cargo from ports in Central and South America that needs to be shipped to the Middle or Far East can be transferred to the new service at the Port of Galveston.

"When Wallenius Wilhelmsen relocated its Gulf operations to Galveston in 1995, we were optimistic about the economic impact that would be created for the Galveston community," said Steven M. Cernak, Galveston Port Director. "Of course we recognized that direct employment was created for the local labor force, but the indirect economic impact resulting from the businesses that support this major port partner was a pleasant surprise."

In addition to the Port of Galveston, cargo will be loaded at Baltimore, Savannah, and Jacksonville, and be unloaded or discharged at Jeddah, Dubai, Dammam and Kuwait. The discharge ports in the Far East are Singapore and Shanghai. Two sailings per month will be offered in the new schedule, with continuing service to the Far East

The vessels deployed in the new service will be Roll-On, Roll-Off (Ro-Ro) ships, capable of handling automobiles, Ro-Ro and non-container/breakbulk cargoes.

During 2003, Wallenius Wilhelmsen unloaded over 100,000 tons of cargo, primarily construction and farm equipment at the Port of Galveston.

The Port of Galveston is preparing a new facility at Pier 34 for Wallenius Wilhelmsen Lines. The scheduled completion is projected for the second quarter of 2004. The Pier 30/33 warehouse has been demolished and the Pier 35 warehouse is scheduled to be removed. The terminal area will then be fenced and paved and security lighting will be installed.

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