

Port of Oakland signs State of California MOU for first-ever, ports data-sharing program

Oakland Seaport joins state plan for improving goods movement efficiency

Port of Oakland's Maritime Director Bryan Brandes signed a historic Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State of California, along with representatives from four other major containerized California ports on Wednesday, April 26, 2023. The MOU is the foundation of the state's plan to establish a California ports data-sharing program (California Port Data Partnership) that will improve the flow of goods and enhance supply chain visibility efforts. The signing took place at an event hosted by California Transportation Secretary Toms Omishakin and California GO-Biz Director Dee Dee Myers.

"Today is a welcome day for California ports and the global logistics industry. Establishing the data-sharing program is an innovative and meaningful approach to enhancing the flow of goods through our state," said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes. "Goods movement efficiency encourages importers and exporters to select California for their sea-going trade, and that supports jobs, positive economic impact, and community benefits in our state."

The California Port Data Partnership is modeled after a nationwide effort unveiled by the Biden Administration in March to standardize the data available on current cargo flow across the nation, reducing consumer costs and providing real time data for more efficient delivery operations.

The signing of the MOU signals a continued commitment to data and infrastructure investments and partnerships that will further advance California ports as centers of innovation. ●



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*On behalf of the
Port of Oakland,
Maritime Director
Bryan Brandes
signs California
Port Data Partnership*

Port of Oakland, Japanese officials and CalSTA advance green seaport initiatives

A delegation of Japanese Ministry officials and representatives from the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) met with the Port of Oakland this month to discuss green initiatives to reach zero emissions from seaport operations.

The meeting was a follow-up to a clean energy trade mission to Japan in March where California policymakers, decisionmakers and business executives met to exchange ideas about tackling climate change, growing green energy and creating new investment and trade opportunities. As a major U.S. West Coast seaport, Port of Oakland officials were part of the California delegation and discussions.

Japan's Director General of Ports and Harbor Bureau of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, talked about his country's efforts to create Carbon Neutral Ports. Japan's goal is to reach carbon neutral port operations by 2050. Osamu Horita and CalSTA Secretary Toks Omishakin were on hand to hear about the progress made by the Port of Oakland on its road to zero emissions.

Port officials shared information on the **electrification of the Oakland Seaport**, the **turning basins widening project** and the **Seaport Gateway project**, all intended to increase efficiency and reduce congestion while reducing emissions. The Port also talked about grant funding applications to help finance green initiatives that support cutting diesel emissions and greenhouse gases from its maritime operations.

"We are excited for the opportunity to join in this partnership to pursue our shared goal of decarbonizing port operations," said President of the Oakland Board of Port Commissioners Barbara Leslie. "We hope this new collaborative effort will deepen cooperation in our industry to reach our zero-emissions goal set in our **Seaport Air Quality 2020 and Beyond Plan** that our Board unanimously adopted four years ago."

"For the Port of Oakland's part, we are proud of the progress we have been able to achieve to drastically reduce emissions from port maritime operations including diesel particulate matter by 86%," she added.

Following the discussion, officials were able to see some of the Port's successful projects that significantly reduce harmful emissions by touring the Oakland Seaport.


Japan is an important US trade partner. It is the top destination for cargo that leaves the Oakland Seaport, accounting for 16% of exports from the Port of Oakland. 



Photo: (from left) Japanese Ministry - Director of International Policy Tomohiro Yamane; Deputy Consul General Hajime Kishimori; Consulate General Yasushi Noguchi; Director General of Ports and Harbor Bureau, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Osamu Horita; Oakland Mayor Sheng Thao; President of the Oakland Board of Port Commissioners Barbara Leslie; Secretary of the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) Toks Omishakin.

MARAD visits Port

The Port welcomed a delegation of U.S. Department of Transportation Maritime Administration (MARAD) Gateway Directors this month for a site visit of Port projects at the Seaport. MARAD is the agency responsible for America's maritime transportation infrastructure — things like ships and shipping, port and vessel operations, national security, environment, and safety.



Gateway Directors serve as experts on all maritime issues such as port infrastructure development and strategic seaports. They help develop projects that promote overall economic growth, mitigate port congestion and are environmentally compliant.

The Port has been the recipient of MARAD-administered grants to update our electrical infrastructure as well as provide a resilient energy grid for the Port's conversion to zero-emissions. MARAD grant awards have also included projects to convert existing cargo handling equipment to zero-emissions, and pending applications seek to expand the deployment of even more zero-emissions equipment at the Port. ●

Port of Oakland makes major strides toward green future

Port Commissioners approve plan for green upgrades at key port terminal



The Oakland Board of Port Commissioners approved an ordinance that will make huge strides in reducing emissions from cargo handling equipment at TraPac, a key marine terminal at the Oakland Seaport.

Port Commissioners unanimously voted to amend terminal operator TraPac's lease to include green upgrades to cargo handling equipment at its terminal facilities.

"This is a vital step towards our plan to become a zero-emissions seaport," said Port Board President Barbara Leslie. "These investments in hybrid cargo handling equipment will cut diesel emissions by 95 percent."

TraPac will retrofit three rubber-tired gantry cranes (RTGs), converting them from diesel fuel to hybrid-diesel fuel, reducing emissions from this equipment by 95%. This transformation will take place by the end of 2024, subject to TraPac securing grant funding.

"This landmark lease agreement will bring the port closer to its goal of achieving zero emissions operations," said Port Executive


Director Danny Wan. "We have multiple projects underway that are modernizing the seaport and building the Port of Oakland into a hub of zero emissions innovations."

TraPac will also purchase four new hybrid RTGs by the end of 2024, which will similarly reduce emissions by 95%.

"We appreciate the fact that our tenant, TraPac, is collaborating with us on the large investments needed to implement these major changes in cargo handling equipment," said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes. "Oakland is an efficient and convenient seaport for importers and exporters and TraPac is stepping up by going green."

The Port of Oakland is providing a financial incentive for TraPac. It will reimburse TraPac up to 35%, or \$945,000 - whichever is less - for the cost of the RTG retrofits. While TraPac, alone, will finance the cost of the four new hybrid RTGs.

The passage of this legislation is significant because it is the first time a terminal operator has been called upon in a Port of Oakland lease agreement to upgrade cargo handling equipment to significantly reduce emissions.

TraPac has been operating at the Port of Oakland since 1991. The company underwent a two-year expansion project beginning in 2016 that nearly doubled its footprint at the port. TraPac's latest investment highlights their confidence in the Port of Oakland as they invest in long-term success through upgrades of their facilities and equipment. 



The Port of Oakland free harbor tours are back after a three-year hiatus. The extremely popular tours highlight Port facilities, including the marine terminals and seaport operations. They began in May and run once a month through October. For more information, click [HERE](#).



Port of Oakland April container volume climbs second month in a row

The Port of Oakland's total container volume is picking up compared to last month. This marks the second month in a row that Oakland's cargo volume is on the rise. Port of Oakland April container volume rose by 7,000 TEUs from March 2023.

"Given the increase we've seen in business over the last couple of months, we are optimistic about a stronger second half of 2023 for the amount of cargo moving through Oakland," said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes. "We also anticipate increasing the number of ocean carrier services offered at the Oakland Seaport in the coming months."

The Port of Oakland handled the equivalent of 174,482 twenty-foot containers (TEUs) last month compared to 170,268 TEUs in March. March's total cargo volume (fulls and empties) through Oakland was also larger than February's throughput at 153,837 TEUs.

Empty exports rose 21.6%, handling 24,754 TEUs this April in contrast to 20,365 TEUs in April 2022. Empty imports declined

8.9%, with 16,395 TEUs transiting the port versus 17,993 TEUs in April 2022. Loaded exports fared better, experiencing a dip of 3.9%, with 63,193 TEUs transiting port facilities, compared to 65,782 TEUs in April 2022.

Full TEUs (twenty-foot containers) dropped 11.2% compared to April 2022 with 133,333 TEUs passing through the port this April compared to 150,084 TEUs in April 2022. Loaded imports were down 16.8%, with 70,140 TEUs going through the port, versus 84,303 TEUs in April 2022.

Trends noticed in the latter half of 2022 have continued into the first quarter this year. This includes a decline of import demand compared to its peak during the pandemic.

Link to Port of Oakland container volume data:

<https://www.oaklandseaport.com/performancefacts-figures/>





Maritime Moments

PARR TERMINAL IN THE EARLY 1920S. TUGBOATS ESCORT A SQUARE-RIGGER PAST STEAMSHIPS DOCKED AT THE TRANSIT SHED.

INDUSTRY RESOURCE LINKS:

- ▲ Oakland Portal
- ▲ Oakland Seaport Map
- ▲ Ocean Carrier Services
- ▲ Shipping Forms & Permits
- ▲ Shore Power & Vessel Commissioning
- ▲ Trucker Resources
- ▲ TWIC
- ▲ Maritime Services Directory