

Almond Board of CA views Port operations up close

Key Ag leaders see improvements first-hand

More than 30 members of the Almond Board of California recently toured the Oakland Seaport. They were here to find out more about maritime operations and development. Board members' business involves growing and/or exporting dry and temperature sensitive products.

Ag producers, leaders, and exporters were among those who toured the temporary pop-up container yard and learned about the reimbursement incentives for yard users. Per-container reimbursements will not cover the full cost of moving and storing shipping containers, but the assistance provided will help ensure American-grown agricultural (Ag) products can once again efficiently move through supply chains to reach markets overseas. Ocean carriers are actively using the pop-up yard to help relieve some of the congestion within the active marine terminals at Oakland.



"Our partnership with the USDA to open a pop-up container yard is helping ag exporters," said Port of Oakland Maritime

Director Bryan Brandes. Additionally we are encouraging shipping lines to bring back vessel service to Oakland to address the demand of export volume. We have the valuable PS4 (The Alliance) service returning to Oakland in July."

Being able to stage containers at the temporary container yard helps keep them from taking up space at warehouses and distribution centers, while space at those facilities is premium.

Ag visitors also learned about the FITS program – Freight Intelligent Transportation System. FITS includes 15 freight technology demonstration projects designed to address traffic management, security systems and roadway improvements at the Oakland Seaport. The funding comes from California Senate Bill 1 funds. These improvements will enhance ability for planning drayage truck deployments at Oakland. The project is expected to enter a testing phase this fall and be implemented by mid-2023 or sooner. → 02



IN THIS ISSUE

- PORT OF OAKLAND GETS ITS CLOSE-UP FROM THE ALMOND BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
- MAY 2022 PORT OF OAKLAND CONTAINER STATS
- HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY FROM YOUR PORT!
- INDUSTRY RESOURCES LINKS
- COVID-19 UPDATES

Almond Board Visit to Port *from page 1*

A new addition to the Oakland Seaport is the first warehouse built in what the Port calls the Seaport Logistics Complex. The tenant for the new 460,000 square-foot facility at 1300 Maritime St. is PCC Logistics. PCC offers dry and reefer storage among other services at this new location. This affords ag customers to store products short-term for transloading.

Almond Board members also saw the CoolPort facility located at 575 Maritime St., which handles refrigerated and frozen cargo. This temperature sensitive warehouse includes direct rail connections.

“The logistics situation is a major concern, so having the chance to bring our Board of Directors and leadership class to Oakland for a tour and discussion with Port officials was most helpful,” said Julie G. Adams, Vice President, Global Technical & Regulatory Affairs, Almond Board of California. “We really value our on-going partnership with the Port of Oakland.”



Not to be missed during the Port of Oakland visit were a view of the new, giant container cranes that make it possible to handle cargo stacked higher on the deck of a megaship. This infrastructure is critical today and to the future of Port operations for efficiently discharging and loading containers from huge vessels that call Oakland.

Port of Oakland maritime staff conducted the tour and shared strategic guidance for exporters to help them as they work through challenges in getting their products to other countries. Exporters and ocean carriers need one another and strengthening those partnerships along with the many key supply chain partners like rail, trucking, and warehousing, will establish smoother operations for transporting US goods.

According to the Almond Board of CA, California produces around 80% of the world's almonds and exports nearly 70% of its production each year. Over \$4 billion in almond exports leave California destined to 100 countries around the world, the majority of which go out through Oakland. ●



◀ The Port of Oakland was pleased to be a sponsor of the Agricultural Transportation Coalition's (AgTC) 34th annual meeting in Tacoma, Washington in June. Port of Oakland is often the preferred gateway for moving American agricultural exports. ▼



Port of Oakland May 2022 container stats

Port of Oakland import cargo volume increased last month despite continuing global supply chain woes. The drivers – longstanding customers who are committed to moving goods through the Port of Oakland and ocean carrier services returning to the Northern California seaport.

The Port said May full imports were up 6.7 percent compared to the same month a year ago. However, overall cargo volume (full imports, full exports, plus empties) for May 2022 was down just under 1% compared to May 2021.

The Port said it received the equivalent of 98,789 20-foot import containers in May. It expressed satisfaction with the result given major challenges at other ports that slow cargo arrival in Oakland. The issues include lockdowns and congestion at upstream ports and ships arriving off-schedule due to delays in the supply chain elsewhere.

“We are very appreciative of our customers who have stuck with us even during the difficult times,” said Port of Oakland Maritime

Director Bryan Brandes. “The boost of import cargo volume in May is an encouraging sign for our seaport.”

Oakland reported restoration of some vessel services in May that were previously suspended to shore up shipping line schedules. The Port said it had 71 ship calls last month, compared to 69 in April.

The Port said increased vessel services would aid exporters facing capacity constraints on ships. Oakland reported a 0.5 percent increase in May exports year-over-year.

Oakland said the overall volume outlook is uncertain in the second half of 2022. Import demand is in question due to building inventories in the U.S. and concerns over inflation. As routes are restored at Oakland, there's more opportunity for American exporters to find vessel space for their cargo destined for overseas markets. ●





INDUSTRY RESOURCE LINKS:

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

About the Port of Oakland

The Port of Oakland oversees the Oakland Seaport, Oakland International Airport, and nearly 20 miles of waterfront including Jack London Square. The Port's 5-year strategic plan - **Growth with Care** - pairs business expansion with community benefits, envisioning more jobs and economic stimulus as the Port grows. Together with its business partners, the Port supports more than 84,000 jobs. Connect with the Port of Oakland and Oakland International Airport through Facebook, or with the Port on Twitter, YouTube, and at www.portfoakland.com ●



Omicron Subvariant BA.2

COVID UPDATES

- [COVID update - BA.2 variant news story here](#)
- [Free confidential COVID testing - find a testing site](#)
- [Stay protected - get your COVID-19 booster dose](#)
- [Slow the spread - get vaccinated](#)
- [Protect yourself - get a flu shot](#)
- [Wearing masks - latest masking guidance here](#)