

Murphy Marine

Under New Ownership

To re-establish his stevedoring firm under its own ownership, Mark Murphy purchased Murphy Marine Services, Inc. from the Holt Group, Inc. on May 1. The Holt Group, had owned this stevedoring company since its creation in 1994.

Murphy purchased the firm, its name and its assets from the Holt Group so that he could operate his stevedoring company as an independent entity.

Murphy has been involved in Wilmington's stevedoring trade since 1981, when he began working as the vice president of Wilmington Stevedores, Inc. At the time, his brother, Jay, was the president of the firm. After working for Wilmington Stevedores for 13 years, Murphy left the company to lead Murphy Marine as its president.

Murphy Marine provides diversified stevedoring services to some of

Wilmington's largest customers. Among those are Dole Fresh Fruit Company and Chiquita Fresh's weekly container reefer vessels calling into Wilmington. When Dole and Chiquita cargo is combined, Murphy Marine handles the discharge of the world's largest banana containerized shipment.

In addition to container cargo, Murphy Marine's crew handles Wilmington's discharge of Volkswagen Transport RoRo vessels, delivering both VW and Audi vehicles. He also supervises the discharge of break-bulk reefer cargo delivered by Pacific Seaways and Kyokuyo Shipping Company Ltd., as well as juice concentrate cargo for Citrusuco North America and Premier Juices, and gypsum cargo for LaFarge Gypsum.

"The acquisition was simply an attempt to prevent our customers in Wilmington from suffering any business disruptions as well as protecting our employees from potential disruptions in work flow," Murphy said.

"Without our customers' great support, I would have not carried on in this endeavor to complete the acquisition and make the company an independent operation," he explained.



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Murphy Marine President Mark Murphy

“Murphy Marine maintains strong relationships not only with its customers, but also with all levels of the International Longshoremen’s Association, which supplies labor to its workforce,” emphasized Murphy.

The company has a staff of 11 full-time employees, including five superintendents, and hires as many as 500 longshoremen according to the workload.

“I’m proud of my experienced and dedicated management team and the productive workforce that have gained our customer’s loyal and strong support. With the inauguration of the new automobile and RoRo berth, we are now looking forward to expanding our services at the Port of Wilmington.” Murphy noted. The *Port Illustrated* congratulates Murphy Marine, Inc. and wishes it continued success!



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