

Executive Director's Letter

Excellent handling of automobiles and RoRo cargoes is an asset to the development of the Port of Wilmington. This August, the Diamond State Port Corporation successfully completed the construction of a \$27.5 million dedicated Auto & RoRo berth on the Delaware River. The summer's issue of *Port Illustrated* features the Port of Wilmington as an ideal auto and RoRo hub at the heart of the U.S. East Coast.



In addition to the Port of Wilmington's advantages as an auto and RoRo hub, the *Port Illustrated* would like to introduce the companies which are involved in this trade at the Port. Volkswagen of America imports and distributes more than 100,000 VWs and Audis a year through Wilmington. HUAL North America has been exporting General Motors and Ford vehicles to the Middle East for nearly 28 years. Auto Port, Inc. is one of the Port's specialized vehicle processing companies which prepares all the exports leaving the Port to the Middle East.

This issue also features the Port's special concern with security of the Port and the safe handling of cargo. Delaware's Port has developed one of the most extensive security databases of any port in the U.S., and now the Port is a candidate to become the pilot for a Homeland Security initiative, which would make the Port's security a model for ports all over America.

Several new developments contribute this summer to the Port's future prospects. First, a new Director of Marketing and Trade Development, Tom Keefer, joined the Diamond State Port Corporation this June. Second, the Port is scheduled to complete a project to extend its crane rail to Berth 1, which will increase the usage of its multi-purpose cranes. Lastly, Mark Murphy purchased Murphy Marine, Inc. from the Holt Group and secured the handling of its Delaware-based customers.

Sincerely,



Executive Director

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Creative Communications
109 Newcomb Court
Claymont, DE 19703
(302) 798-1569 • Fax (302) 791-0765
e-mail: creative.com@att.net

Diamond State Port Corporation

Port of Wilmington, Delaware
One Hausel Road
Wilmington, DE 19801
(302) 472-PORT • Fax (302) 427-7740
www.PortofWilmingtonDE.com

Nathan Hayward, III
Chair of the Board

R. Adam McBride
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Tom Keefer
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Director of Operations

Inigo Thomas
Director of Technology Solutions

Robert S. Senseny
Harbor Master

Port Illustrated

Vered Nohi-Becker
Editor & Photographer

Cathy Imburgia
Writer

The Port of Personal Service