

Executive DIRECTOR'S Letter



The Port has seen some significant and positive developments since I last communicated with you via *Port Illustrated*. Heading this list is the reopening of the Shellpot Bridge after an extensive renovation. This has dramatically improved the movement of rail freight to and from the Port of Wilmington and throughout Delaware.

Closed for a decade, the Shellpot is now repaired and reopened to commercial rail traffic crossing the Christina River. Our customers can now take advantage of competitively priced and improved service options for distributing cargo by rail. The rehabilitation of the Shellpot is a result of a joint effort by Norfolk Southern Corp. and Delaware's Department of Transportation. Inside this issue, you can read about their unique approach to getting the job done quickly and cost-effectively.

You will also read about a new influx of cargoes that began arriving at the Port this past year. Since signing a new contract with Holmen Paper, Diamond State Port Corporation has made notable investments in training and equipment to handle these high quality Swedish paper imports at the Port of Wilmington. Also, Port workers are handling a large variety of imported steel products that will help meet a great demand in the very active commercial construction, home building and automotive industries.

Other exciting news reported in this issue is the expansion of the Port's refrigerated warehouse complex. A new 60,000 sq. ft. cold storage facility is planned for exclusive use by Dole Fresh Fruit Company for their anticipated market growth.

Our teamwork produces excellent results and provides our customers with consistent quality and an unsurpassed touch of personal service!

Gene Bailey
Executive Director
Diamond State Port Corporation

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