

Three Ships Include DELAWARE on Their Maiden Voyages

Diamond State Port Corporation and maritime community representatives welcomed three new ships on their maiden voyages to Delaware this past fall and winter. Two large shipping companies commissioned the ships to keep up with growing market demand for juice concentrates and automobiles – two major import/export products handled at the Port of Wilmington.

The investments in these new vessels by world-class carriers HUAL and Citrosuco demonstrate a commitment to operating and maintaining state-of-the-art fleets. As the Mid-Atlantic distribution hub for the juice concentrate and auto trades, the Port of Wilmington is well-positioned to continue its nearly 20-year relationship with Citrosuco and 20-year relationship HUAL as well as meet each of the carrier's growing commercial needs.

Established in 1963, Citrosuco is one of the world's largest orange juice

processors. Its new vessel, *m/v Premium do Brasil*, arrived at the Port of Wilmington October 10 with about 1.4 million gallons of frozen orange juice concentrate – the equivalent of about 22.4 million glasses of juice!

Citrosuco has developed technologies to completely utilize oranges in the process of making juice. Citrosuco and its shipping line, Maritime Services Aleuropa GmbH, ships the fresh or frozen Brazilian juice concentrate in tankers to North America for distribution throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Built in the Kelven Flore AS shipyard in western Norway, the *m/v Premium do Brasil* can accommodate fresh or frozen concentrate. The 672-foot long vessel is classified as a 4-hold refrigerated ship rather than a tanker because she has 16 vertically



positioned cylinder juice tanks for storing fresh juice or frozen juice concentrate between -10 and 0 degrees Celsius.

To achieve flexibility and economy in shipping, *m/v Premium do Brasil* can also accommodate up to 500 20-foot long shipping containers on deck, 75 of them refrigerated. She is capable of carrying more than 33,000 tons of fresh juice, and was built to meet growing market demand for juice in North America and Europe.

Citrosuco North America, the company's North American sales arm, has been operating a bulk juice storage terminal at the Port of Wilmington since 1984. It's one of the largest juice storage facilities in North America.



HUAL recently commissioned two new ships to meet growing trends in the automobile trade. Sister ships, the *m/v HUAL Oceania* and the *m/v HUAL America*, are two new Pure Car Truck Carrier (PCTC) vessels that made their maiden voyages to Delaware this winter.

At a cost of approximately \$60 million per vessel, the *m/v HUAL Oceania* and the *m/v HUAL America* are two of the 12 planned additions to HUAL's fleet through 2007. "The investment in our fleet positions HUAL to meet anticipated increases in import/export activity from vehicle manufacturers in the Far East, Europe and North America," said Roy Winograd, Vice President Marketing, HUAL North America, Inc.

The *m/v HUAL America* was built by Stocznia Gdynia S.A. Gdynia Poland, and the *m/v HUAL Oceania* was built by Toyohashi Shipbuilding Company. Both ships feature unique, multiple liftable decks for flexibility in loading cargoes of varying heights as well as providing a minimum deck height of 1.85 meters for increased cargo carrying capacity. Cruising at a speed of 20 knots, the ships are nearly 200 meters long, 32.62 meters wide and capable of carrying 6,500 standard-size cars.

On February 1, *m/v HUAL Oceania* arrived at the Port of Wilmington to pick up RoRo cargo bound for Valencia, Spain, and for ports of discharge in the Middle East. The *m/v HUAL America* arrived at the Port of Wilmington on March 5 and was loaded with General Motors new factory vehicles and high and heavy rolling cargoes bound for Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, and other Middle Eastern ports of discharge.

Transportation specialist HUAL North America, the North American division of HUAL AS in Oslo, Norway, has been continuously calling at the Port of Wilmington for nearly 30 years. In 2003, HUAL had approximately 40 port calls here carrying more than 30,000 vehicles bound for the Middle East. HUAL's fleet of 27 ships operates regularly between ports on the U.S. East


Coast, Europe, the Middle East, West and South Africa, and the Far East.

The new ships from Citrosuco and HUAL demonstrate a commitment to serve growing world markets. The Port of Wilmington values this commitment by its shipping customers and their partnership in the juice concentrate and automotive trades.


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*Captain H. Hickman Rowland, Jr.
President, Wilmington Tug*



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