



PORT AUTHORITY “ECONOMIC CATALYST” FOR ALABAMA NEW STUDY AFFIRMS JOBS AND TAX IMPACTS

January 17, 2013, Mobile, Ala. – A fiscal year 2011 economic impact study prepared by John C. Martin Associates, LLC, a leading maritime industry economic consulting firm, estimates \$22.3 Billion in total economic value for the State of Alabama from the cargo and vessel activity the Port of Mobile, and of this value, \$18.7 Billion is directly tied to the Alabama State Port Authority’s public terminals. Martin’s study also calculated jobs and tax benefits to the state of Alabama. The federal government calculates between 55 and 65 million tons of cargo moves through the Port of Mobile annually.

In FY2011, there were 141,029 jobs in the State of Alabama related to the cargo and vessel activity at the Alabama State Port Authority (ASPA) and the private terminals at the Port of Mobile. Martin Associates estimates that 127,591 total direct, indirect, induced and related user jobs are directly linked to the ASPA’s operations. The Martin study also concluded that both the ASPA and private terminals at the Port of Mobile generated \$573 million in direct, induced, indirect and related user taxes paid to state and local governments by individuals, as well as firms dependent upon the Port of Mobile cargo and ship repair activity. Of this \$573 million in tax impact, nearly \$507 million was directly tied to the ASPA’s public terminals.

Much of the port’s growth is attributed to business generated by nearly \$700 million in capital investments at the Alabama State Port Authority public terminals and in the federal channel. “Our capital programs have transformed this seaport’s ability to handle Post-Panamax sized ships, diversify its cargo base, attract industrial investment statewide, and generate jobs,” said James K. Lyons, director and chief executive officer for the Alabama State Port Authority. “With continued investment in intermodal and transportation infrastructure, I can see these figures only getting bigger,” said Lyons.

The Martin study affirmed the link between investment and growth when looking at the similar economic impact calculations conducted in 2007 and the overall US economic performance since the global recession began in 2008. The study concluded significant job and overall economic growth at the Port of Mobile underscores “the importance of the Port of Mobile as an economic catalyst”, and that it “is critical that the ASPA supports the growth of cargo by continuing to invest in port infrastructure and support the development of port dependent importers and exporters.”

Martin Associates was tasked with preparing an update to their 2007 study of the Port’s economic impacts on the State of Alabama. Martin, in its October 2011 study, assessed measurable impacts and employed methodology and definitions used to measure the economic impacts of seaport activity at more than 250 ports in the United States and Canada. Martin Associates is an economic consulting firm with over 20 years of experience assessing economic impacts to the world’s transportation systems.

The Alabama State Port Authority owns and operates the State of Alabama’s public, deep-water port facilities at the Port of Mobile and handled over 25 million tons of cargo in fiscal year 2012. The Authority’s container, general cargo and bulk facilities have immediate access to two interstate systems, five Class 1 railroads, and nearly 15,000 miles of inland waterway connections. Learn more at www.asdd.com or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AlabamaStatePortAuth.

###

Justina Strong
Director of Communications,
Alabama State Port Authority
251-441-7003
251-751-3497 cell
jadams@asdd.com