



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HEAVY LIFT BARGE CRANE TO POSITION IN THE PORT OF MOBILE

January 26, 2010, Mobile Ala. - Beginning May 2010, the Alabama State Port Authority and Barnhart Crane & Rigging will provide heavy lift barge crane services to cargo customers at the Port of Mobile. The Authority launched its Request for Proposals process in October 2009 seeking a private partner to position heavy lift and turn key services at the port.

The barge mounted heavy lift crane will service most vessels and is capable of discharging cargo up to 400 short tons from mid-ship to barge, shore, rail, truck, or specialized carrier. "This heavy lift floating crane will provide an advantage to our customers in need of greater flexibility and capacity for cargo transfer on the central Gulf Coast," said Alabama State Port Authority Director & CEO, Jimmy Lyons, "We think this partnership marks a significant benefit to shippers at both public and private terminals."

In addition to providing the floating crane, as one of the largest heavy lifting and heavy transportation companies in the United States, Barnhart will also be able to provide turnkey services from ship to site. "For Port of Mobile users Barnhart can offer a new dimension in transport and lifting solutions. Considering our engineering capabilities, specialized equipment like hydraulic gantry, slide systems, and electronic steer Goldhofer trailer, we should be able to handle the toughest cargo challenges," said Barnhart's Jeff Latture, Senior Vice-President for Sales & Marketing. Barnhart will also offer project cargo customers a variety of on-carriage options including barge, rail and storage. This range of services truly makes the Port of Mobile a turnkey option for project cargo.

Barnhart Crane & Rigging, established in 1969, is a leading national supplier of heavy lifting and transportation solutions, and operates its Memphis Heavy Lift Terminal featuring 1,250 Ton derrick crane. The company, with 23 locations across the United States, provides logistics, machinery moving and plant relocations. Barnhart's Quality Management System is certified to the ISO 9001:2008 international standard and has been registered since 2000.

The Alabama State Port Authority, headquartered in Mobile, Ala., owns and operates Alabama's public deepwater port facilities at the Port of Mobile. The Port of Mobile currently ranks 10th largest U.S. seaport in total volume. The Authority's container, general cargo, bulk and heavy lift facilities have immediate access to five Class 1 railroads, two interstate systems, and nearly 15,000 miles of inland waterway connections.

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Contacts:

Judith Adams
Vice President, Marketing
Alabama State Port Authority
251.441.7003 (o); 251.751.3497 (c)
Jadams@asdd.com

Chris Teague
Director of Marketing
Barnhart Crane & Rigging Company
251.706.5385 (o) 251.402.5140 (c)
cteague@barnhartcrane.com