



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**TRADE EXECUTIVE FOR THE ALABAMA STATE PORT AUTHORITY DIES
MARK SHEPPARD REMEMBERED**

May 15, 2013, Mobile, Ala—Mark Ivey Sheppard, Vice President for Trade and Development for the Alabama State Port Authority, died yesterday at his home following a brief illness. He was 61 years old.

"Mark Sheppard's sudden passing comes as a deep shock to our maritime and international trade community," said James K. Lyons, director and chief executive officer. "We are deeply saddened by Mark's passing. He was a key member of our team and a good friend," Lyons added.

Recruited by the Alabama State Port Authority in February 2005, Sheppard led trade and carrier development for the Port Authority's intermodal investments. Under his tenure, business and ocean carrier service expanded at the new container terminal despite a global economic recession from 2008 through 2010.

Mark Sheppard's maritime career spanned over 30 years beginning with a management trainee position for United States Lines, then one of the largest container shipping lines in the world. Sheppard went on to work for a number of companies in the U.S. Gulf, including Hapag-Lloyd, Mitsui O.S.K. Lines and Ned-Lloyd Lines where he managed direct sales, marketing and integrated logistics.

Sheppard was active in maritime and international organizations and served on the Board of Directors for the Tennessee Tombigbee Waterway Development Council, and was Vice Chairman and Chairman-elect for the Alabama Germany Partnership. Mark Ivey Sheppard was a native of Mobile, Alabama, and graduated from the University of South Alabama. Sheppard was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy Sheppard, and is survived by his daughter, Jessica Allen Sheppard of Washington, D.C.

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