



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Largest Ship Call at the Port of Mobile
Post-Panamax Vessel Arrives at APM Terminals Mobile**

November 5, 2012, Mobile Ala. – The Alabama State Port Authority announced today the largest ship in the seaport’s history called at its APM Terminals Mobile facility today. The Post-Panamax, 8,400 TEU capacity container ship serves Mediterranean Shipping’s weekly direct call service to Mobile to/from the North European ports of Antwerp, Felixstowe, Bremerhaven and Le Havre. In addition to the European service (SATL), shippers out of Mobile can take advantage of the vessel rotation calling Freeport, which provides multiple global port destinations.

The MSC TEXAS is a 101,898 DWT container ship measuring 1,096 ft. in length overall (LOA) with a beam of 141 ft. Norton Lilly International served as the vessel’s agent. APM Terminals served as the terminal operator.

Jimmy Lyons, director and chief executive for the Port Authority noted a steady increase in Post-Panamax vessels at the port due in part to infrastructure investments at the Port of Mobile. “We’ve increased our ability to handle and turn these vessels thanks to a 45 ft. channel and a turning basin capable of turning ships upwards of 1200 ft. in length. Other contributing factors that attract the larger vessels at APM Terminals Mobile are efficient operations, increasing cargo base and cost effective shipping options in our region,” said Lyons. APM Terminals Mobile opened in 2008 and in the last three years has posted an average 35% growth rate by volume. “We are extremely pleased with the ease and efficiency this vessel was handled at the Port of Mobile further demonstrating our ongoing ability to service vessels of this size,” said Lyons. The Port Authority, and its partners, in recent years had invested over \$340 million in a state-of-the-art container terminal and turning basin capable of handling the larger, Post-Panamax sized vessels on Mobile’s 45 foot draft channel. “Our partner, APM Terminals, quickly dispatched the ship’s cargo demonstrating why they are the best in container terminal operations.”

Headquartered in The Hague, Netherlands, APM Terminals is the world’s leading port and inland operator with 63 port facilities in 40 countries and providing Inland Services operations in over 160 locations in 48 countries.

The Alabama State Port Authority owns and operates the State of Alabama’s deep-water port facilities at the Port of Mobile and its public facilities handled more than 25 million tons of cargo last year. 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.

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