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THE PORT OF MOBILE WELCOMES THE FIRST VESSEL OF ZIM'S NEW ASIA-GULF EXPRESS (AGX) CONTAINER SERVICE

Alabama State Port Authority is putting out the welcome mat for ZIM Integrated Shipping Services' newest all water, direct Asia-Gulf Express (AGX) Service into the Port of Mobile, Alabama. The *ZIM ADRIATIC* sailed from Shanghai, China on June 21 and will arrive in Mobile on July 23 – a 32-day transit time.

ZIM's AGX Service is among the first of its kind that sails directly to/from Asia from the US Gulf. It is biweekly and fixed-day with competitive, rapid transit times. The AGX Service will enable increased capacity as well as the capability to expand ZIM's All Water Services into the Gulf area. Seven of ZIM's newest 3,000 TEU panamax container ships will be utilized for the new service.

ZIM's first Asia-Gulf Express sailing departed from Shanghai, China, June 21, sailing to other Ports in Asia, Panama, the Port of Mobile and two other U.S. Gulf Ports. The AGX Port Rotation includes the following ports of call: Shanghai, Ningbo, Pusan, Colon, Kingston, Tampa, Mobile, Houston, Kingston, Colon, and Shanghai.

##MORE###

"Once again, ZIM answers the call by shippers for a faster, direct service to Asia with our new AGX Service. The Port of Mobile is a key port for Zim in the Gulf. It has really stepped up to the plate and delivered excellent service and port facilities with total reliability and efficiency. We look forward to having a long and prosperous business partnership with the Port of Mobile that results in satisfied customers," commented Gordon Kay, Zim, Executive Vice President Marketing/Customer Service

"ZIM's new Far East schedule fits very well with our port's strategy to grow containerized cargo services," stated James K. Lyons, Director/CEO, Alabama State Port Authority. "The AGX service will provide regional shippers with more efficient, all water service to Asia and help continue the Port's rapid growth in the container market."

Alabama State Port Authority (www.asdd.com) operates the State of Alabama's deepwater port facilities in Mobile, Alabama. The Authority directly employs 600 workers and its facilities handle more than 25 million tons of cargo each year. Alabama's full service seaport is currently ranked 12th largest port in throughput tonnage in the United States and handles containers, breakbulk, bulk and oversized and heavy lift cargoes.

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