



Administration
portuaire de Montréal
Au cœur du commerce

***Press release
For immediate release***

Recipients: News desk editors, assignment editors, environment reports, and economics, finance, municipal affairs and general interest reporters

Port of Montreal

**THE PORT OF MONTREAL NOW PARTICIPATING IN A PROGRAM
THAT REWARDS SHIPS CERTIFIED TO BE ECOLOGICAL AND SAFE**

Port of Montreal President and CEO confirms record results for the Port in 2008

MONTREAL, Quebec, January 29, 2009 – The Managing Director of the Green Award Foundation, headquartered in Rotterdam, today personally delivered the Green Award Plaque to the Port of Montreal into the hands of Montreal Port Authority President and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Patrice M. Pelletier. This ceremony recognizes the fact that the Montreal Port Authority decided to grant a 10% fee reduction on port dues to all vessels with Green Award certification.

Vessels eligible for certification are dry and liquid bulk carriers, including oil tankers, with a registered minimum deadweight of 20,000 tonnes. They are evaluated according to criteria set by the Green Award Foundation on their technical condition, the quality of their crew and the vessel's onshore management. Subject to annual verification, their certification is valid for three years. It guarantees that the vessel is "extra clean and extra safe". In return, the vessel is entitled to reductions from about 30 ports in seven countries, including Canada. Around the world, approximately 220 seagoing vessels are currently certified by Green Award.

On this occasion, Mr. Patrice M. Pelletier stated that: "The Port of Montreal is very proud to display its commitment to improving environmental performance in the marine industry as a whole through its participation in the Green Award program"



For his part, Mr. Jan Fransen, Managing Director of the Green Award Foundation, stated: “The Foundation is very delighted with this partnership and we expect it to lead to a further expansion of the Green Award program in North-America. This is a perfect example of Corporate Social Responsibility” .

Mr. Pelletier also took the opportunity to deliver the final figures for Port operations, which saw an overall growth of 3.9% in 2008, for a total of 27,021,342 tonnes. Container traffic alone increased by 8,1 %, for a total of 1,473,914 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs). “This means that the start of the recession did not stop the Port of Montreal from beating its average growth rate over the last five years, which was 6,4%” pointed out Mr. Pelletier, adding the Port of Montreal recorded higher growth in 2008 than North America’s top ten container ports.

About Green Award

The Green Award Foundation has as its objective, the stimulation of safety and environmentally aware conduct of shipowners, crews and ships. Green Award is independent and impartial and since 1994, has focused on the worldwide certification of seagoing vessels. Seagoing vessels from 20,000 DWT and above (both oil tankers and dry bulk carriers) are evaluated on their technical condition, quality of the crew and the management on shore. Those that comply with the criteria receive the Green Award certificate, which subject to annual verification, is valid for three years. The certificate is evidence that the vessels can be expected to be extra clean and extra safe. This in turn, is rewarded by ± 30 ports in 7 countries with a reduction on port dues, encouraged by approximately 220 seagoing vessels certified by Green Award.

About the Montreal Port Authority

The Montreal Port Authority (MPA) operates the world's largest inland port. It is a leader among container ports, handling 26 million tonnes of cargo annually. In 2008, the Port of Montreal handled more than 1,473,000 TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units).

The Port of Montreal operates its own rail network, providing direct access to berths, and is linked to two major railways and a highway system. It also operates a grain terminal and a marine passenger terminal. All other terminals are operated by private stevedoring firms. Through its activities, the Port of Montreal generates 18,200 jobs and \$1.5 billion annually in economic spin-offs.

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Mr. Patrice M. Pelletier, CEO of the Montreal Port Authority, receives the Green Award Plaque from Mr. Jan Franssen, Managing Director of the Green Award Foundation. The Port of Montreal is the second North American port to become a partner in the Green Award program.



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From left to right: Mr. Alan DeSousa, Member of the Executive Committee, City of Montreal; Mr. Patrice M. Pelletier, CEO, Montreal Port Authority; Mr. Hans Glaubitz, General Consul of the Netherlands; Mr. Jan Fransen, Managing Director, Green Award Foundation and its Deputy Managing Director, Ms. Karin Struijk.

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