



For Immediate Release
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Port Houston Jumps to Top 5 U.S. Container Ports

HOUSTON – Due to continued strong growth in loaded containerized cargo, Port Houston has surged higher in the rankings of the top container ports in the United States.

Port Houston, which has been expanding rapidly in recent years, has climbed to become the fifth largest container port in the U.S., according to JOC Piers data covering the second quarter of 2018. Port Houston handled 1,057,964 twenty-foot-equivalent-units (TEUs) during that period and catapulted up from the sixth spot.

Port Houston is outpacing trade for the U.S. as a whole this year, led by strong imports, the data also shows. For example, during the first six months of 2018, Port Houston imports from the Trans-Pacific region jumped by 24 percent, a significant hike compared to overall U.S. Trans-Pacific imports, which increased by 5 percent.

Port Houston is the largest container port in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico, handling about two-thirds of all the containers that move through the Gulf.

Port Houston is No.1 in the U.S. in foreign tonnage and now is in the Top 5 for containers with Los Angeles, New York, Savannah and Long Beach. Houston continues to close the gap.

Port Houston, an operating port, has invested hundreds of millions of dollars on new infrastructure and technology at its two container terminals in recent years. As part of an aggressive strategy to leverage new technology and capacity to continuously improve the customer experience, that investment includes three new ship-to-shore cranes that were delivered to the Bayport Container Terminal earlier this month.

New cranes also have been delivered to the Barbours Cut Container Terminal, a 40-year-old facility that is being extensively modernized. New upgrades to gate operating and terminal operating systems combined with a highly skilled workforce have created one of the most efficient container ports in North America.

The three newest STS cranes will make a total of 26 ship-to-shore operational cranes working at Port Houston's container terminals, 13 of which are Super Post-Panamax.

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About Port Houston

For more than 100 years, Port Houston has owned and operated the public wharves and terminals of the Port of Houston – the nation's largest port for foreign waterborne tonnage and an essential economic engine for the Houston region, the state of Texas and the nation. It supports the creation of nearly 1.175 million jobs in Texas and 2.7 million jobs nationwide, and economic activity totaling almost \$265 billion in Texas – 16 percent of Texas' total gross domestic product – and more than \$617 billion in economic impact across the nation. For more information, visit the port's website at PortHouston.com.