



For immediate release
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Universal Africa Lines to Call Port Houston City Docks *Port Houston facilities, operations and efficiencies highlighted*

HOUSTON – Universal Africa Lines (UAL), a conventional ocean transportation carrier that specializes in handling project cargo, breakbulk and containers, has announced that it will now call Port Houston’s City Docks as part of their U.S. Gulf/Mexico to West Africa liner service. The change was effective with the first regular vessel call of the MV MarMalaita July 10.



Caption: Port Houston maiden voyage plaque presentation with Port Houston staff, UAL representatives, M/V MarMalaita vessel Captain Slepchenko and stevedore, Schroder Marine Services.

UAL offers two to three sailings per month direct from Houston to West Africa. The company specializes in servicing the oil and gas industry and tailoring logistics solutions for clients shipping to difficult areas. UAL also has a fleet of more than 4,000 containers including reefers, high cubes, open tops and flat racks with the ability to provide a multitude of shipping options including door-to-door service.



Caption: M/V MarMalaita vessel calling at Port Houston's city docks July 10.

“Port Houston is excited about our new partnership with UAL and that they are entrusting us with their services here at the port’s city docks,” said Dominic Sun, Director of Trade Development for Port Houston. “We look forward to working with UAL in providing them, along with their ultimate customers, with the best customer experience possible here at Port Houston.”

UAL chose Port Houston due to the available dedicated laydown area for project cargoes and berth availability, both of which provided added flexibility to UAL’s multipurpose fleet, this is particularly important considering the multitude of UAL’s cargoes that range from helicopters to subsea trees.

“UAL is grateful for the partnership we have been able to establish with Port Houston and thank everyone involved for their efforts during this transition; we are looking forward to a long-lasting relationship that offers growth potential for UAL,” said Dianna Knight, President UAL America. “UAL America, on behalf of Universal Africa Lines, will continue to provide the paramount level of customer service that our clients have grown accustomed to; we are confident this move will help with our vessel turnaround time while operating in a safe environment.”

About the Houston Ship Channel

The Houston Ship Channel is a 52-mile federal waterway and is home to the greater Port of Houston’s more than 200 private and eight public terminals. It is considered the energy capital of the world. In 2018, the Houston Ship Channel generated nearly \$802 billion in U.S. economic value, supported 3.2 million jobs, and provided \$38 billion in tax revenue. In the state of Texas, it generated \$339 billion in economic value - 20.6 percent of the state’s total gross domestic product (GDP), sustained 1.3 million jobs and generated \$5.6 billion in state and local tax revenue. The full economic impact report is available at <https://porthouston.com/>.

About Port Houston

For more than 100 years, Port Houston has owned and operated the public wharves and terminals of the greater Port of Houston – the nation’s largest port for the foreign waterborne tonnage and an essential economic engine for the Houston region, the state of Texas, and the United States. Port Houston is the sponsor of the Houston Ship Channel, a 52-mile federal waterway. Its success is a partnership of the U.S.

Coast Guard, the Houston Pilots Association, those private and public terminals, and the vessels that transit it every day. For more information, visit the website at <https://porthouston.com/>.

About UAL

UAL Regular Ports of Call:

Mauritania: Nouakchott, Nouadhibou

Ghana: Takoradi, with Tema on inducement

Cameroon: Douala

Equatorial Guinea: K5/Malabo and Luba, Bata on inducement

Nigeria: Onne Port, Brawal, and Warri, with Lagos on inducement

Gabon: Pt. Gentil

Congo: Pt. Noire

Democratic Republic of the Congo: Banana

Angola: Luanda and Soyo with Lobito and Porto Amboim on inducement

**Additional West African on inducement*

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