

# P R E S S   R E L E A S E



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 3, 2010**

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## **PORT OF SOUTH LOUISIANA CELEBRATES THE OPENING OF NEW TRANSIT SHED and COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION OF FINGER PIER AT GLOBALPLEX INTERMODAL TERMINAL**

RESERVE, LA.

Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development’s (LA DOTD) Interim Secretary Sherri LeBas joined Port of South Louisiana (PSL) Executive Director Joel T. Chaisson, Commission President Louis A. Joseph, and Associated Terminal’s President David Fennelly in cutting the ribbon that marked the official opening of Transit Shed #4 at Globalplex Intermodal Terminal during a ceremony held on May 19, 2010. The \$6 million warehouse, which was designed to withstand 130 MPH winds, was funded in part by \$4.8 million from LA DOTD’s Port Construction and Development Priority Program.

The building consists of 14” thick pile-supported concrete floor with a large load capacity, concrete walls 18” in thickness to resist loads from stored materials, and a metal steel enforced roof 58’ above the walls. Erected adjacent to the general cargo dock access bridge, the Port of South Louisiana planned this structure based on the needs of its customers. “It is [at] this site to make it quick and easy for shipments to move to and from our dock for storage,” Mr. Chaisson said. Designed by URS Corporation, the building layout and location will permit future expansion of the structure to triple its current size in addition to the installation of conveyors connecting the warehouse to the general cargo dock and to nearby railroads.

Sun Rice is currently storing rice in the 40,000 square-foot warehouse. The rice bagging operation taking place is a total Louisiana production: the rice is locally-grown and processed by Louisiana mills, transported by local truckers, then bagged and loaded for export by Associated Terminals, a locally-owned company. Associated Terminals will be bagging and handling two shipments of approximately 50,000 tons over a six-month period for export out of the transit shed, an operation that will create 75 jobs at Globalplex Intermodal Terminal.

At the event, Mr. Chaisson also announced the commencement of construction of a 65’W x 700’L finger pier adjacent and downriver from the existing general cargo dock that will allow the berth of a Panamax-size vessel and direct vessel-to-barge transloading. The task will include the demolition and reconstruction of the downriver mooring dolphin. Continental Construction will be undertaking the \$18.9 million project, which will be funded in part by \$15 million (\$9 million authorized; 6 million approved/pending funding) also from LA DOTD’s Port Construction and Development Priority Program.

Construction is slated to begin in the summer of 2010 and expected to be complete in approximately 18 months.

Immediately following the ceremony, the Port of South Louisiana and Associated Terminals hosted the annual Maritime Industry Appreciation observing the contribution of the maritime community on the port district. More than 200 maritime representatives were invited for an afternoon of boiled seafood.



*Pictured L-R: Commission President Louis A. Joseph, LA DOTD Interim Secretary Sherri LeBas, and Executive Director Joel T. Chaisson*



*Rendering submitted by URS Corporation of location of finger pier in relation to the existing general cargo dock at Globalplex*



*Commission Vice-President Robert "Poncho" Roussel and Commission President Louis A. Joseph*



*Pictured L-R: Ports Association of Louisiana Executive Director Joe Accardo, LA DOTD's Courtney White, LA DOTD Assistant to Secretary Shawn Wilson, URS Corporation's Kent Israel*



*Pictured L-R: PSI's Cherie Stivers, PSI's Roy Glapion, PSL Gov't Affairs Director Melissa Folse*



*Bunge's Dennis Quijano and St. Charles Parish President V.J. St. Pierre*

The Port of South Louisiana, a 54-mile port district on the Mississippi River between New Orleans and Baton Rouge, is the largest tonnage port in the Western Hemisphere. The cargo it handles accounts for over 50 percent of all Louisiana imports/exports.

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