



NEWS RELEASE

**ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN PORT AUTHORITIES
L' ASSOCIATION DES ADMINISTRATIONS PORTUAIRES CANADIENNES**

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CANADA'S PORTS WORKING TOWARD A GREEN AWARD PROGRAM FOR THE COUNTRY

Canada's major ports have always taken their environmental stewardship role seriously in the ports and harbours in which they do business. To further enhance the sustainability of waterborne trade in Canada the Association has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the European-based Green Award Foundation. The Green Award Foundation developed and operates an incentive based system for safe and environmentally friendly ships and shipping companies. They have run this successful program since 1994 with 250 ships now enrolled in the program. "We must be vigilant with respect to sustainability and the Association has now taken a leadership role to ensure that the eventual Green Award Program developed for Canada is based on sound principles," said Sean Hanrahan, President and CEO of the St. John's Port Authority and Chair of the Association. He further noted that Canada's ports must be an integral part of any Green Award Program given that ports are at the center of all waterborne trade and uniquely positioned to make the program feasible.

Transport Canada has sought the assistance of the Association in the development of a Green Award Program for Canada and work continues to collect the necessary data to advance this important initiative. "We believe that our experience in implementing a Green Award Program in Europe will greatly facilitate the further development of Canada's current effort," stated Jan Fransen, Managing Director of the Green Award Foundation.

The MOU between the two organizations is intended to provide the basis for collaboration to investigate the feasibility and encourage the implementation of the Green Award Program in Canadian Ports. This collaboration reflects the main objective of the parties to promote safe and environmentally friendly shipping in Canadian waters. The effort under this agreement will be results-oriented in nature, creating a win-win situation for ports, ship owners and the Canadian environment. To this end, work is already underway to collect relevant data across Canada's National Port System with a view to having important preliminary data for Canada's Green Award Program by March 2008.

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The Association of Canadian Port Authorities was founded in 1958 and groups together ports and harbours and related marine interests into one, national association. The ACPA represents all Canada Port Authorities, various government entities and companies doing business in the marine sector. The ACPA is the pre-eminent Association for the advocacy and advancement of the Canadian Port Industry. ACPA members contribute greatly to the local, regional and national economy of Canada with over \$120 billion worth of goods handled annually.