

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PORT OF LOS ANGELES SIGNS SISTER PORT AGREEMENT WITH CHILEAN PORT, PUERTO VALPARAISO



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After 5:00 p.m.:

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SAN PEDRO, Calif. – Officials for the Ports of Los Angeles and Puerto Valparaiso, Chile, signed a sister port agreement earlier this month, marking the Port of Los Angeles' first agreement with a South American port.

Representing the Port of Los Angeles at the Chilean summit on December 6, were Los Angeles Harbor Commissioner Camilla Townsend and David Mathewson, the Port's Director of Planning and Environmental Affairs. On behalf of Puerto Valparaiso, Chairman Gabriel Aldoney Vargas and General Manager Herald Jaegar Karl signed the agreement with Los Angeles port officials in Valparaiso.

"The Port of Los Angeles has been considering the opportunity for a sister port agreement with Valparaiso for sometime now," said Commissioner Camilla Townsend. "The two ports have had a very successful working relationship since 1998 and are very similar in nature. Both are adjacent to downtown and residential areas and embarking on monumental waterfront redevelopment projects, addressing port infrastructure improvements and tackling environmental challenges. It is an ideal fit."

Sister port relationships strengthen the economic and commercial bond between the respective countries, which focus on technology and operational improvements, and allow sharing components of environmental programs and policies regarding air quality, water quality and wildlife habitats to better both harbors.

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Sister Port Agreement

2-2-2

The Port of Los Angeles and Puerto Valparaiso both share waterfront enhancement and community revitalization in future development plans. The Port of Los Angeles has also maintained an international office in Santiago, Chile since 1995 and currently holds sister and friendship port agreements with 15 different ports around the world.

Chile is the world's leading exporter of winter fruit. The Port of Los Angeles receives more Chilean fruit than any other U.S. West Coast port. In 2003, the Port of Los Angeles received 253,533 tons of fresh fruit from Chile, a 9.7 percent increase of 22,508 tons compared to calendar year 2002. Los Angeles receives all West Coast-bound Chilean avocado exports – approximately 65,000 pallets, or 228 million avocados annually – and nearly all of the region's imported fresh grapes, equaling 113,312 tons.

The Port of Los Angeles is America's premier port. As the leading containerport in the nation and a critical hub in the international supply chain, the Port generates thousands of stable, well paying jobs. It has also placed a high priority on smart growth initiatives combined with high security, environmental stewardship and community outreach. The Port of Los Angeles is a proprietary, self-supporting department of the City of Los Angeles. The Port of Los Angeles . . . Anchoring a bright future.

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Sister Port Agreement

3-3-3



SISTER PORTS - Officials from the Port of Los Angeles sign a sister port agreement with officials from Puerto Valparaiso, forming a new relationship with the South American port. From left: Harald Jaeger, General Manager of Puerto Valparaiso, Camilla Townsend, Los Angeles Harbor Commissioner; Gabriel Aldoney, President of Puerto Valparaiso; David Mathewson, Port of Los Angeles Director of Planning and Environmental Affairs; and Anthony Wylie, International Representative of the Port of Los Angeles' marketing office in Chile.

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