



Ogdensburg Bridge & Port Authority

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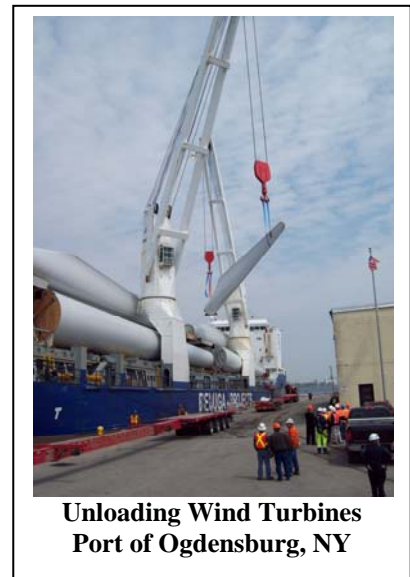
NEWS RELEASE – 2008 Progress Report

OGDENSBURG – The Ogdensburg Bridge & Port Authority had a very successful year in 2008. Topping the list of accomplishments was a new record for the number of vessels calling on the Port of Ogdensburg. A summary of 2008 activity at the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority's facilities follows, along with our 2009 Outlook.

Port of Ogdensburg

The Port of Ogdensburg set a new record in 2008 for the number of vessels calling on the Port. This was in large part due to the Authority's ability to attract a large shipment of wind turbine components to the Port.

Over the course of the windmill project, the Port saw 11 inbound ships and 92 barge trips. The 11 ships that called on the Port sailed from Denmark carrying 86 Siemens wind turbines, each turbine weighing approximately 345 tons. The wind turbines were destined for a wind farm project that is under development on Wolfe Island in Lake Ontario. The Port was used as a ship-unloading facility and storage area for the turbines. The 86 turbines were then reloaded onto barges at the Port for exportation to the island. The Authority's successful effort to expand the Foreign Trade Zone to the Port facilities also contributed to the success of the project.



**Unloading Wind Turbines
Port of Ogdensburg, NY**

The project had a positive impact on the local economy, creating a significant payroll for over 30 area longshoremen and additional demand for services at area restaurants, stores and other businesses.

In addition to the wind turbine cargo, the Port also received roughly 80,000 tons of road salt from 5 additional vessels that called on the Port from Ontario and Quebec, Canada. Smaller quantities of dried distillers grains, cottonseed, corn gluten and citrus pulp were also handled at the Port facilities during 2008.

Despite the challenges posed by the current economic recession the Authority is looking forward to a prosperous 2009 season. The Port has already begun to receive dried distillers grain shipments, and anticipates handling over 30,000 tons of this ethanol byproduct during 2009. Much of this product will be shipped in by truck and distributed to local farms as animal feed, but the Authority is also hopeful that some of the material will be shipped out to overseas markets. The Authority plans to continue its aggressive marketing efforts during 2009 and is attempting to attract additional project cargoes and new bulk commodities.

During 2009 an update of the Authority's Port Master Plan will also be completed, which will guide the Port's development and marketing efforts over the next 10+ years.

The Authority has also applied to the State of New York for a \$1.1 million grant to build a new access road to the Port off of outer Ford Street. If approved, this project will be completed prior to the proposed reconstruction of Paterson Street. If funded, this access road will improve the Port's ability to handle over-weight and over-dimensional cargo, and remove truck traffic from residential Paterson Street.

Industrial Parks

The Authority's light-industrial Commerce Park in Ogdensburg was expanded during 2008 with the construction of a new \$2.2 million, 24,000 s.f. shell building. The building was financed and constructed by the Authority in an ongoing effort to attract additional jobs and investment to Northern New York. Despite the current economic conditions, the Authority remains optimistic that a new tenant will locate in the building during 2009.



Commerce Park, which has been developed by the Authority over the past 20+ years, is home to over 25 companies that employ over 500 area residents in a mix of Authority-owned and privately-owned facilities.

The park is anchored by a variety of industrial firms, including BreconRidge, Allen-Vanguard, CoorsTek, Ara Shoes, and T-Base Communications. Other businesses in the park include the St. Lawrence Federal Credit Union, A.N. Deringer, Inc., DeFelsko Corporation, the International Corporate Center, Lincare, FedEx, Strader Ferris International and a number of other small businesses. The Authority's heavy-industrial park is home to ACCO Brands, Inc. The office products company is one of the area's largest employers. Graymont Materials, Inc., also operates a cement batch plant in the heavy-industrial park.

The Authority is also working closely with the Development Authority of the North Country to expand high-speed internet access in the industrial park.

Ogdensburg International Airport

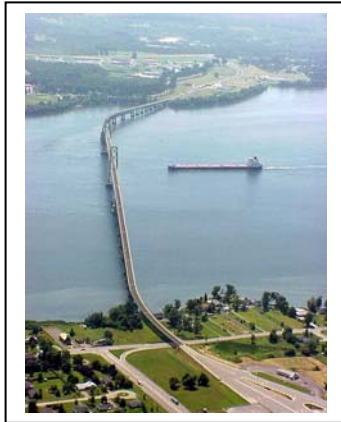
Essential Air Service (EAS) resumed at the Ogdensburg International Airport during 2008 with the announcement that Cape Air, a Massachusetts-based airline, would begin daily passenger flights to Albany. With three daily direct flights to the State Capital, most area residents have found the new passenger service convenient and affordable.



The Authority also undertaken significant renovations and upgrades at the Ogdensburg International Airport in 2008. This past fall the demolition of the old 1930's era wooden hanger at the airport was completed. The installation of a new beacon traffic control light was also accomplished in 2008.

During 2009, the Authority will complete the construction of a new airport hanger building, which is presently under construction. A proposed expansion and rehabilitation of the runway apron is also planned for 2009.

Ogdensburg-Prescott International Bridge



The Ogdensburg-Prescott International Bridge will undergo a major \$20 million rehabilitation project during 2009. The project is part of an ongoing effort to address the long-term capital needs on the 50+ year old span, and will entail the complete re-decking of the suspension portion of the bridge.

The Authority is also investing in the future rehabilitation needs of the bridge to ensure its long-term viability. Most-recently the Authority Board improved investing nearly \$400,000 to hire an engineering firm to complete the designs necessary for the remaining renovations to the bridge. These renovations will include additional deck replacement on the U.S. and Canadian approaches.

The Authority will use the engineered drawings and new construction estimates to seek additional funding for the project, which will likely total over \$70 million, through the proposed Federal stimulus plan.

The Authority is also anticipating undertaking a project in 2009 to relocate and upgrade the bridge's existing toll booths to the South side of the U.S. Customs & Border Protection facilities.

New York & Ogdensburg Railway

The New York & Ogdensburg Railway, which is operated under lease by Vermont Rail System, Burlington, Vermont, saw a sizeable increase in rail shipments during 2008. It is estimated that

rail traffic increased 20% from 2007 to 2008. Just under 1,000 railcars were shipped on the shortline railroad during the calendar year. Products included road salt, citrus pulp, corn gluten, cottonseed and Dried Distillers Grains. Seaway Bulk Services, a rail-to-truck operation at the Port of Ogdensburg, also handles resins, lubricants, plastic pellets, oils, etc. These products are transloaded from rail to truck at this facility and then trucked to industries throughout the region.

Vermont Rail, with assistance from the Authority, has also applied for over \$2 million in funds for much-needed upgrades to the shortline railroad. If approved, the upgrades will take place during 2009-2010.

About the Ogdensburg Bridge & Port Authority

The Ogdensburg Bridge & Port Authority is a New York State Public Benefit Corporation, which operates the Ogdensburg-Prescott International Bridge, the Port of Ogdensburg, the New York & Ogdensburg Railway, Commerce Park and the Ogdensburg International Airport.

Members of the Board of Directors of the Ogdensburg Bridge & Port Authority include: Fredrick Carter, Chairman, Mary Farley, Vice-Chair, Roger McBath, Sam Lamacchia, James Thew, Donald Hooper and William Nelson.