



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SC Ports 2017 Container Volume Up 13 Percent
Strongest July on record

CHARLESTON, SC - August 14, 2017 - Today South Carolina Ports Authority announced calendar year-to-date container volume increases of 13 percent and the strongest July on record.

Since the calendar year began, SCPA has handled 1.3 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEU), compared to 1.14 million TEUs during the same period last year. The Port moved 182,411 TEUs in July, breaking the previous record of 177,265 TEUs achieved in July 2016.

Last month was also a record July for pier container volume, or box volume. SCPA handled 103,319 boxes at the Wando Welch and North Charleston terminals, exceeding the July 2016 record of 100,366 pier containers.

"SCPA handled record container volumes in July in spite of model year transitions in the automotive industry," said Jim Newsome, SCPA president and CEO. "We look forward to continuing this momentum as fiscal year 2018 progresses and expect to see fairly strong volumes this fall."

In the non-containerized cargo market, Charleston handled 42,420 tons of breakbulk cargo in July. Calendar year to date, the Port has handled 471,961 tons.

Inland Port Greer handled 7,011 rail moves in July, pushing calendar year-to-date volume at the facility 31 percent higher than last year. Since January, 74,700 rail moves were handled compared to 56,870 during the same period in 2016.

Harbor Deepening

Having been named one of six "new start" projects and receiving \$17.5 million in construction funding in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Fiscal 2017 Work Plan, the harbor deepening to 52 feet continues to move forward toward construction this fall.

The USACE solicited bids for the Post 45 Charleston Entrance Channel Maintenance and New Work Dredging - Contract One in June, and the apparent low bidder for the contract is Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Company, LLC, with a bid of \$47,197,150. The USACE Charleston District still needs to complete several acquisition steps to verify the acceptability of the bid prior to award of this contract, which is planned for next month. Contract 1 is the smaller of two contracts required to complete the Entrance Channel deepening construction.

About South Carolina Ports Authority

South Carolina Ports Authority (SCPA), established by the state's General Assembly in 1942, owns and operates public seaport facilities in Charleston, Georgetown and Greer. In 2015 SCPA handled international commerce valued at more than \$74 billion while receiving no direct taxpayer subsidy. An economic development engine for the state, Port operations facilitate 187,200 statewide jobs and generate nearly \$53 billion annual economic activity. Home to the Southeast's deepest port, SCPA is the industry leader in delivering speed-to-market, seamless processes and flexibility to ensure reliable operations, big ship handling, efficient market reach and environmental responsibility. For more information on SCPA, please visit www.scspa.com.

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