

Port of Baltimore Receiving More Ford Imports

Peter T. Leach | Jul 14, 2010 5:02PM GMT

The Journal of Commerce Online - News Story

Cars from Mexico, Turkey boost port's business

The number of autos handled at the Port of Baltimore increased by about 16 percent this year from the same time last year and is expected to rise further as Ford Motor Co. imports more new Ford Fiestas through the port.

The new Ford Fiestas from Ford plants in Mexico, which began arriving June 24 onboard a "K" Line roll-on, roll-off vessel, will arrive throughout the rest of this year at the Port's Dundalk Marine Terminal.

"Ford's decision to bring more cars to Baltimore is another good sign for Maryland as we begin our recovery from the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression," said Governor Martin O'Malley.

Earlier this year, BMW began shipping the first of 50,000 new vehicles through the Port of Baltimore annually for the next five years.

The Port of Baltimore also serves as the primary port of entry for the Ford Transit Connect van from Turkey. Baltimore receives about 85 percent of the 35,000 vans that are imported into the U.S. annually.

Autos are one of the main commodities handled at the Port of Baltimore's public marine terminals. In 2009, the Port of Baltimore handled about 375,000 cars total.

The Maryland Port Administration recently announced that it handled more autos in March at the public marine terminals of the Port of Baltimore than at any time in at least the last 10 years. In March, 38,053 autos came through the port's public terminals. The port's previous record for most cars handled was 37,552 in July 2008. In January 2009 in the heart of the economic downturn, auto volumes at the Port dropped to 13,558 cars.

Maryland Daily Record

Port of Baltimore Gaining Ford Fiestas

Posted: 7:04 pm Wed, July 14, 2010

By Anna Isaacs

Less than a month after the Port of Baltimore lost 60,000 vehicles in Kia and Hyundai shipments to Philadelphia, port officials said Wednesday that Ford would ship its Fiestas here through the rest of the year.

The news comes after an up-and-down year for roll-on/roll-off cargo at the port, which lost Hyundai's business but also signed a five-year deal with BMW to receive 50,000 new vehicles — business it took from Charleston, S.C.

Maryland Port Administration spokesman Richard Scher declined to say when the deal with Ford was struck, but called it "great news" after the 116 layoffs at Fairfield and Masonville auto terminals from the Kia and Hyundai losses.

Scher also declined to say how many Fiestas will come through the port, but a source with knowledge of the deal said the number was 17,000.

Hyundai Motor Co.'s move of those shipments to Philadelphia was part of an effort by the company to consolidate its mid-Atlantic shipping operations to one facility.

"The maritime business is very much ebb and flow," Scher said. "We would like to keep all business at the port forever, but it just doesn't happen like that. ... There are different reasons why certain manufactures choose various ports for their cargo, and that's really what the business is all about."

Ford is not a new customer to the Port of Baltimore: Baltimore receives nearly 30,000 of the 35,000 Ford Transit Connect vans imported into the U.S. annually.

While the BMW deal is generating about 200 new jobs, Scher said this latest agreement will sustain jobs rather than create them. The Port of Baltimore has about 1,150 direct jobs from its auto business out of about 16,700 total direct jobs at the port.

"Certainly when we're able to secure additional cars to come through the port, that is obviously a very good sign for those direct auto jobs," he said.

In 2009, the port handled about 375,000 cars total, and the number of autos handled at the Port of Baltimore is up about 16 percent over the same time last year, according to a statement from the Maryland Port Administration. Scher said despite the losses, the addition of the BMW vehicles and the Ford Fiestas amount to an overall success.

"We are among the top three ports in the nation for handling autos," he said. "We feel here that in terms of autos, we have a great product to sell."

AAPA Advisory Port News

BALTIMORE - An inaugural shipment of imported Ford Fiesta automobiles arrived June 24 aboard a K Line car carrier at the Maryland Port Administration's Dundalk Marine Terminal in the Port of Baltimore. The shipments will continue for a minimum of three years..

"We are happy to welcome more Ford products to the Port of Baltimore," said Governor Martin O'Malley. "Good-paying, family supporting auto jobs at the port benefit greatly when more cars come through Baltimore. Ford's decision to bring more cars to Baltimore is another good sign for Maryland as we begin our recovery from the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression."

This March this year, BMW took delivery of the shipping the first of 50,000 new vehicles that will be imported through the port annually over the next five years (Advisory, March 22, 2010). Baltimore also serves as the primary port of entry for the Ford Transit Connect van, and according, to the MPA, Baltimore, receives about 85% of the 35,000 vans imported into the United States annually.

The MPA reports Baltimore's auto trade is up 16% from a year ago. In March, the port's public terminals handled a record 28,053 vehicles, beating the port's previous monthly record, 37,552 in July 2008 and a vast improvement from the 13,558 handled in January 2009.

News Gazette.Net

Fiestas now rolling through port

The Port of Baltimore recently started receiving imported Ford Fiestas, which are scheduled to continue arriving through 2010.

"Ford's decision to bring more cars to Baltimore is another good sign for Maryland as we begin our recovery from the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression," Gov. Martin O'Malley (D) said in a statement.

The port is handling about 16 percent more vehicles than at the same time last year, according to the statement. This year, BMW began shipping the first of 50,000 new vehicles through the port annually for the next five years, creating about 200 jobs.

The port handled 38,053 autos in March, more than in any month in at least 10 years. All told last year, it handled about 375,000 cars.

WBAL Radio

Ford Fiestas Roll Into Port Of Baltimore

Scott Wykoff

More cars are arriving at the Port of Baltimore with the arrival of new Ford Fiestas. The imported vehicles, which began arriving June 24 on board a K Line roll on/roll off vessel, will continue arriving throughout the rest of this year at the Port's Dundalk Marine Terminal.

This is a part of Ford's decision to bring more cars to Baltimore.

The number of autos handled at the Port of Baltimore is up about 16 percent over the same time last year. Earlier this year, BMW began shipping the first of 50,000 new vehicles through the Port of Baltimore annually for the next five years. That agreement is generating about 200 new jobs.

The Port of Baltimore also serves as the primary port of entry for the Ford Transit Connect van. Baltimore receives about 85 percent of the 35,000 vans that are imported into the U.S. annually.

Autos are one of the main commodities handled at the Port of Baltimore's public marine terminals. Approximately 1,150 direct jobs at the Port are generated by the Port's auto business.

In 2009, the Port of Baltimore handled about 375,000 cars total.

The Maryland Port Administration (MPA) recently announced that it handled more autos in March at the public marine terminals of the Port of Baltimore than at any time in at least the last ten years. In March, 38,053 autos came through the Port's public terminals. The Port's previous record for most cars handled was 37,552 in July 2008. In January 2009 in the heart of the economic downturn, auto volumes at the Port dropped to 13,558 cars.

Out of about 360 U.S. ports, Baltimore is ranked number one for handling roll on/roll off cargo; trucks; imported forest products; and imported gypsum, sugar and iron ore. The Maryland Port Administration says the Port is responsible for about \$3.7 billion in personal wage and salary income. Activities at the Port of Baltimore generate nearly \$400 million in state and local taxes.

Bmoremedia.com
New Fords at Port of Baltimore

The number of cars passing through the Port of Baltimore is increasing with the arrival of new Ford Fiestas. The imported vehicles, which began arriving June 24 onboard a K Line roll on/roll off vessel, will continue arriving throughout the rest of this year at the Port's Dundalk Marine Terminal.

"We are happy to welcome more Ford products to the Port of Baltimore," says Gov. Martin O'Malley. Good-paying, family supporting auto jobs at the Port benefit greatly when more cars come through Baltimore. Ford's decision to bring more cars to Baltimore is another good sign for Maryland as we begin our recovery from the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression."

The number of autos handled at the Port of Baltimore has risen about 16 percent over the same time last year. Earlier this year, BMW began shipping the first of 50,000 new vehicles that will make their way through the Port of Baltimore annually for the next five years. That contract has created about 200 new jobs.

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In 2009, the Port of Baltimore handled about 375,000 cars total.

The Maryland Port Administration (MPA) recently announced that more cars, trucks, and vans passed through the Port of Baltimore in March than at any time in at least the last ten years. In March, 38,053 automobiles came through the Port's public terminals. The Port's previous record for most cars handled was 37,552 in July 2008. In January 2009, impacted by the global economic recession, auto volumes at the Port dropped to 13,558 cars.

The Port of Baltimore has created about 16,700 direct jobs. Of the roughly 360 U.S. ports, Baltimore is ranked number one for handling roll on/roll off cargo; trucks; imported forest products; and imported gypsum, sugar and iron ore. The Port is responsible for about \$3.7 billion in personal wage and salary income. The Port of Baltimore generates nearly \$400 million in state and local taxes.