

BALTIMORE SUN

Port of Baltimore handles record number of autos

By Lorraine Mirabella, The Baltimore Sun

The Port of Baltimore's public terminals handled 42,830 cars in October, a 25 percent boost from a year earlier and a record number for a single month, port officials said Wednesday.

The previous record was set in March, when 38,053 cars came through the public docks.

"These automobile numbers demonstrate that the Port of Baltimore is successfully weathering the storm that is the recent national economic downturn," Gov. Martin O'Malley said in a statement. "This is good news for the thousands of men and women that depend on the port-related jobs to support their families."

The port's auto business is up 33 percent compared with the first 10 months of 2009, officials said.

BMW began shipping 50,000 cars annually through Baltimore earlier this year and expects to continue that pace for the next five years, an agreement that will generate about 200 new jobs. Ford began shipping its Fiesta models through Baltimore this year as well.

Auto business generates some 1,150 direct jobs at the port, which ranks second among all U.S. ports for exporting cars.

MARYLAND DAILY RECORD

Port of Baltimore handles record number of autos in October

Posted: 6:10 pm Wed, December 1, 2010

By Nicholas Sohr

Daily Record Business Writer

The Port of Baltimore handled a record 42,830 autos in October, the latest example of increased activity at the state's public shipping terminals.

Roll on/roll off cargo, a strong suit for the port, has had a rocky year, with manufacturers coming and going, but is expected to up about 7 percent over 2009.

The port handled about 375,000 cars that year and is expected to ship 400,000 in 2010, an indicator of an economy on the rebound, according to state officials.

"Cars are a very good barometer of economic times," said port spokesman Richard Scher. "When times are good, people are going to want to buy cars. When times are not good, they're not going to want to buy cars."

The ro/ro record in October easily beat the previous high, set in March, and the pre-recession peak of 37,552 in July 2008. Still, Scher cautioned, the port still has a way to go to a full recovery.

"Last year was a terrible year for not only the Port of Baltimore, but the maritime industry as a whole," Scher said. "It's key to remember that it's going to take at least a few more years to get back to our pre-recession levels."

Last December, the port inked a 5-year deal with BMW, which agreed to shift its shipments of 50,000 vehicles annually from Charleston, S.C., to Baltimore. In the summer, the port lost about the same number of Hyundai and Kia cars to Philadelphia, but gained 17,000 Fords.

BALTIMORE BUSINESS JOURNAL

The auto business at the port employs about 1,150.

By Scott Dance - Wednesday, December 2, 2010

Other business at the port has been up this year, too. A record 91 cruises are expected to carry 190,000 passengers by the end of the year, and 112 trips are already on the books for next year.

Cargo container traffic has increased 16 percent over last year and set a series of records during the summer, with 63,740 units handled in July. Shipments of pulp for paper products have also increased in 2010.

Port of Baltimore sets record for number of cars in a month

The Port of Baltimore has handled a record number of cars for the second month this year, with nearly 43,000 coming across the docks in October.

That broke a record set in March, when state-owned port terminals handled 38,000 cars. It also comes 25 percent ahead of auto cargo numbers in October 2009.

For the year to date, auto cargo is up by a third compared to this point a year ago. Much of that is because BMW began shipping 50,000 cars through Baltimore each year for the next five years. Ford also began shipping its Fiesta model through Baltimore this year.

The state port terminals in Baltimore handled 375,000 cars in 2009, and that business supports about 1,150 jobs. The port ranks second among U.S. ports for auto exports, according to the Maryland Port Administration

CARGO BUSINESS NEWS

Wednesday, December 01, 2010

Baltimore breaks auto record again

The Port of Baltimore announced that for the second time in 2010, its public marine terminals handled more autos in one month than in any other month in the port authority's history.

In October, 42,830 rolled through, breaking the record of 38,053 cars that was set in March, the port said in a statement.

The port's previous record for most cars handled was 37,552 autos in July 2008, before the national economic recession. October's total was 25 percent higher than October 2009's total of 34,057 cars, the port said.

The port said its auto business is up 33 percent over the same period last year. Earlier this year, BMW began shipping 50,000 new autos, an annual contract for the next five years.

In addition, Ford began shipping the Fiesta model through the port this year.

In 2009, the Port of Baltimore reported handling about 375,000 cars. Baltimore said it ranks second among all U.S. ports for exporting automobiles.

JOURNAL OF COMMERCE

Baltimore's Auto Trade Sets Record in October

Peter T. Leach | Dec 1, 2010 8:19PM GMT

Second record month since recession as BMW, Ford send more cars

For the second time this year, the public marine terminals at the Port of Baltimore handled more autos in one month than in any other month in the port's history.

The Maryland Port Administration said 42,830 cars came through Baltimore's public docks in October, breaking the record of 38,053 cars that was set in March.

Before March, the Port's previous record for most cars handled was 37,552 in July 2008, before the national economic recession.

October's total is also 25 percent higher than October 2009's total of 34,057 cars. The number of autos passing through the port in the 10 months through October is up 33 percent over the same time last year.

Earlier this year, BMW began shipping 50,000 new cars annually through Baltimore for the next five years. That agreement is generating about 200 new jobs. Also, Ford began shipping their Fiesta car through the Port this year. 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. Baltimore ranks second among all U.S. ports for exporting cars.

Fox 45

October car shipments up at Port of Baltimore

December 02, 2010 13:22 EST

BALTIMORE (AP) -- Officials at the Port of Baltimore say a record number of auto shipments for a single month were handled in October.

The port said Wednesday that it handled 42,830 cars in October -- a 25 percent increase. It also said its auto business for the first 10 months of the year is up 33 percent compared to the first 10 months of 2009.

BMW and Ford both began shipping cars through the port this year.

Port officials say auto imports and exports generate 1,150 direct jobs at the port.

WBAL Radio

Port Traffic Posts Record

Thursday, December 02, 2010

Steve Fermier

October was a good month for new car traffic through the Port of Baltimore.

In fact, it was the BEST, according to officials, who say roll on and off cargo was nearly 43-thousand vehicles...the most ever.

State officials believe the increase for this year will be about 7 percent over last year.

WBALTV.com

October Car Shipments Up At Port Of Baltimore

POSTED: 3:08 pm EST December 2, 2010

BALTIMORE -- Officials at the Port of Baltimore said a record number of auto shipments for a single month were handled in October.

The port said Wednesday that it handled 42,830 cars in October -- a 25 percent increase. It also said its auto business for the first 10 months of the year is up 33 percent compared to the first 10 months of 2009.

BMW and Ford both began shipping cars through the port this year.

Port officials said auto imports and exports generate 1,150 direct jobs at the port.

Daily Journal (IN)

BALTIMORE — Officials at the Port of Baltimore say a record number of auto shipments for a single month were handled in October.

The port said Wednesday that it handled 42,830 cars in October — a 25 percent increase. It also said its auto business for the first 10 months of the year is up 33 percent compared to the first 10 months of 2009.

BMW and Ford both began shipping cars through the port this year.

Port officials say auto imports and exports generate 1,150 direct jobs at the port.