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Algoma's Cancelled Order Could Save Croatian Shipyard

According to Edi Kucan, the CEO of the 3 Maj shipyard in Croatia, completing Algoma Central's cancelled order could save the yard from bankruptcy. When the shipyard was no longer able to deliver the contracted vessels on time, Algoma Central cancelled their multi-million dollar order with the Croatian shipyard.

3 Maj shipyard and its parent company, Uljanik Group, have been undergoing financial restructuring over the past year and a half and filed for bankruptcy last fall. The company is seeking 120 million Euro from the Croatian government to complete Hull #733, a 650' Equinox-River Class self-unloader. It will be an identical ship to the *Algoma Innovator*.

Kucan believes that if the vessel, as well as the remaining four ships also under construction, is completed, the shipyard will at least see the next few years.

The court hearings in Rijeka for bankruptcy proceedings have been postponed to August 1.

Port Muskegon Receives First Seaway Pacesetter Award

The Port of Muskegon was awarded their first Robert J. Lewis Pacesetter Award. The award was presented by the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation to Chuck Canestraight. Canestraight is the President of Port City Marine Services, part of Sand Products Corporation, and received the award on behalf of the West Michigan Dock and Market Corporation.

Last season, 17,000 metric tons of freight from across the globe passed through the Port of Muskegon. Muskegon handles many cargoes, including aggregates, salt, cement, general cargo, and is also a port of call for cruise ships.

Poe Lock Turns 50

The Poe Lock, the largest of the Soo Locks and only one capable of handling vessels longer than 730', turned fifty. The lock was officially opened on June 26, 1969 when the *Philip R. Clarke* passed through the lock. The Poe Lock is 1200' long by 110' wide and is the only lock capable of handling 1,000 footers.



M/V *Joseph L. Block* in the Poe Lock
Photo: Brendan Falkowski

Dossin Great Lakes Museum to Get Million Dollar Upgrade

Detroit's Dossin Great Lakes Museum is to get a \$5 million exterior facelift, breaking ground on July 1. Improvements to museum grounds include a new Lost Mariners Memorial and garden, a new patio, new bike racks, benches, as well as a kayak launch. The museum is owned by the Detroit Historical Society and admission is free. The Historical Society is seeking donations to help fund the remaining cost of the project. You can visit their website [here](http://www.detroit-history.org).

Order of Ford Cars Costs Port of Monroe When Customs Steps In

Ford Motor Company got an order to ship several hundred Ford Mustangs to Germany, and decided to ship the cars through the Port of Monroe. This was Port of Monroe's chance to make their mark. They were to load the Ford Mustangs into shipping containers, which, in turn would be loaded onto a ship in Monroe and sailed to Germany.

But, when Customs and Border Protection looked at the plan, they placed a few unrealistic requirements on the operation. Customs demanded that Port of Monroe upgrade their facilities, equipment, and security, all at the Port's expense, because they didn't have resources to inspect all of the cargo.

Instead, Ford shipped the cars through the Port of Baltimore. Port of Monroe is not the only one suffering the consequences, either. Several ports across the country are being required to do the same things. Until the ports can have the resources to inspect all cargo coming in and out, they will continue to lose business opportunities like these.

USS Billings (LCS-15) Hits Docked Ship in Montreal Harbor

While departing Montreal Harbor on Friday, June 21, the *USS Billings* hit the cargo vessel *Rosaire A. Desgagnes*. The *Billings* was under assistance of two tugs at the time when the tugs lost control of the warship.

The *Billings* was constructed at Marinette Marine Corporation in Marinette, Wisconsin. The warship has been delivered to the U.S. Navy, but has not yet been commissioned. Her captain was removed from command after the incident.

Shipwatcher News

Store

The Ship's Store has been moved to its own web page. Please visit www.glshipart.wordpress.com for more information.

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Issue Citations:

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