

PORT TAMPA BAY

MEDIA RELEASE

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Port Tampa Bay named Port Operator of the Year by Lloyd's List

TAMPA, Fla.— Port Tampa Bay has been selected by Lloyd's List, the maritime industry's longest running source for industry news as the North American Port Operator of the Year.

Port Tampa Bay was given the award last week at a gathering of the shipping industry's most senior executives at Pier Sixty in Manhattan.

"Our awards support the best in the shipping business, as well as the best in shipping generally – from courageous seafarers to innovators who, through their inventions save lives, and organisations that go the extra mile to improve environmental standards," Craig Eason, Deputy Editor of Lloyd's List, pointed out. "We see the Lloyd's List North American Awards as a reminder of the importance of this industry to both commerce and social good."

The competition was fierce and the judges reported that the standard of entries was staggeringly high and indicative of an industry exceeding benchmarked expectations.

The Port Operator of the Year award recognises the company, port authority or terminal that has maintained the highest standards of operational efficiency and customer service throughout the year, as well as a sustained commitment to cost and operational efficiency, and an outstanding safety and environmental record.

Judges remarked, "Port Tampa Bay accommodates a variety of ship types and diverse customer service requirements. This port has demonstrated achievements that go above the ordinary..." The judges also commented that the icing on the cake was Port Tampa Bay's investment to be storm ready for when the next big storm comes.

"We are honored to be chosen by our peers in the maritime industry and such a distinguished organization as Lloyd's List to be named the 2016 Port Operator of the Year, the entire family at Port Tampa Bay is always improving the level of customer service, commercial opportunities and generational impact on the industry and our community but this wouldn't be possible without all of our private and public sector partners especially our partners at Ports America," said Paul Anderson port president and CEO, "I am especially proud that the judges recognized our unwavering commitment to Safety and Security."

"This year's awards ceremony was a glittering celebration of the best that shipping has to offer," Eason enthused. "Lloyd's List, together with the event's sponsors and judges, congratulate Port Tampa Bay on its award."

For further information and photographs of the winners, sponsors and judges, please visit: <http://lloydslistawards-northamerica.com/>

About the Port Tampa Bay

Port Tampa Bay is the largest economic engine in west central Florida, supporting nearly 80,000 jobs and generating almost \$15 billion in annual economic impact. The port handles a wide array of bulk, break bulk, containers and roll-on/roll-off cargoes, and is a top ten cruise homeport and shipbuilding and repair center. The port was recently voted "Simply the Best" for world-class customer service in a Logistics Management Magazine reader poll. Additionally, in recent years, Port Tampa Bay has been recognized as a "Port of the Year," based upon a Carnival Cruise Lines passenger poll, and the Tampa-based Holland America Line M/S Ryndam received the distinction of "Best Embarkation/Mid-size cruise ship" in the Cruise Critic Cruisers' Choice Awards, a program of the popular online web site CruiseCritic.com. For more information, visit www.tampaport.com.

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