

Port of Oakland Container Volume Surges in July

Imports and exports both increase from last month

Port of Oakland July container volume marked a strong rebound from June, with volumes climbing sharply as importers moved cargo early to get ahead of the announced August 7 tariff deadlines. Loaded imports jumped from 70,334 TEUs (twenty-foot containers) in June to 92,392 TEUs in July, a 31.4% increase and the highest monthly import total so far in 2025.

"This kind of front-loading—where cargo owners accelerate shipments to avoid added costs—was clearly the driving force behind the month's performance," said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes.

The lift was not limited to inbound cargo—full exports also rose, moving from 59,593 TEUs in June to 65,595 TEUs in July, an



IN THIS ISSUE

- JULY CONTAINER STATS
- MARITIME SPOTLIGHT: THE WONDERFUL COMPANY
- LOCAL BUSINESS GROWS INTO WORLDWIDE WINE DISTRIBUTOR
- GLOBERUNNERS VISITS HMM OPAL
- REMAINING HARBOR TOURS



increase of 10.1%. Together, full TEUs totaled 157,987 for the month, up more than 21% from June.

Vessel activity also reflected the uptick in demand. 95 vessels called the Port in July, up from 77 in June—a 23.4% increase—as carriers added more port calls to accommodate the additional volume. Average TEUs per vessel edged down slightly from 2,187 in June to 2,138 in July, a natural shift when more ships are sharing the load. → 02



**PORT OF
OAKLAND**

Seaport. Airport.
Everyone's Port.

July Container stats continues

Year-to-date, total TEUs through July stand at 1,346,022, keeping the Port 1.9% ahead of 2024's pace. Loaded imports are tracking 3.5% higher than last year, while loaded exports are up 0.3%.

July's surge underscores how quickly cargo flows can shift in response to announced changes in trade policy.

"The pending tariffs created a clear incentive for importers to push cargo through in advance, giving us a strong month across the board," said Brandes. "As that front-loaded cargo works its way through the supply chain, we anticipate a more moderate pace in the months ahead."

Link to Port of Oakland container volume data: <https://www.oaklandseaport.com/business/facts-figures/> 



INDUSTRY RESOURCE LINKS:

- ▲ [Oakland Portal](#)
- ▲ [Oakland Seaport Map](#)
- ▲ [Ocean Carrier Services](#)
- ▲ [Shipping Forms & Permits](#)
- ▲ [Shore Power & Vessel Commissioning](#)
- ▲ [Trucker Resources](#)
- ▲ [TWIC](#)
- ▲ [Maritime Services Directory](#)

Maritime Spotlight – the Wonderful company™

The Wonderful Company deepens their long-standing relationship with the Port of Oakland by finalizing a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) earlier this year. The new MOU paves the way to further mutually beneficial business development, including their recently developed logistics company, and upcoming rail expansion project.

The Los Angeles-based, six billion dollar, privately held company, includes healthy, iconic, household brands such as Fiji Water, Pom Wonderful (juice), Wonderful seedless lemons, Halos mandarins, and Wonderful pistachios, Teleflora flowers, plus wine, to name a few. The company's fruit, nuts, and wine have been shipped out of the west coast ports of Oakland and Los Angeles for decades, to destinations in Europe, Asia and the Middle East.



The company has now developed a **logistics center** in the town of Shafter (*photo below*), featuring 13 million square feet of warehouse space. Located northwest of Bakersfield, the center is also planning a 130-acre intermodal rail ramp, constructed alongside the BNSF rail track, which will connect the logistics center to the Port of Oakland, as well as Southern California ports.



"The goal is to expand our relationship (with the Port) through rail connectivity," said Sepehr Matinifar, Vice President of Logistics Services. "This will drive both imports and exports through the Port of Oakland, reduce truck emissions, and provide more efficiencies."

**66 The goal is to expand our relationship
... through rail connectivity. This will drive
both imports and exports through the Port of
Oakland, reduce truck emissions, and
provide more efficiencies. 99**

Sepehr Matinifar, Vice President of Logistics Services
The Wonderful Company

"We value our growing relationship with The Wonderful Company," said Carolyn Almquist, Port of Oakland Manager of Business Development and International Marketing. "The company's dedication to investing in their partnerships with an eye towards growth aligns with the Port's strategic values."

The Wonderful Company founders, Stewart and Lynda Resnick, purchased their first company, Teleflora in 1979, followed by the addition of Paramount Citrus in 1981. Today the company owns 13 brands of healthy foods and drinks.

In 2001, the company added Suterra, a leader in biorational products to protect crops. In 2007, the company furthered its reach by buying Neptune Pacific Line. The acquisition became an integral part of transporting Fiji Water to U.S. markets.

Throughout the conglomerate's companies, there runs a thread of being good corporate stewards, and giving back to the communities in which they operate. ♦



New Video: Port of Oakland Helps Local Business Grow into Worldwide Distributor

Wachira Wines

The Port of Oakland is pleased to present a new video that shows how the Port helps local businesses grow into international distributors – “Port of Oakland Supports Small Business: Wachira Wines.” This brief **video** shares the inspiring story of Wachira Wines, an Alameda-based winery that has grown into the premier Kenyan American winery in the United States.

Founded in 2017 by Dr. Christine Wachira, Wachira Wines is rooted in a celebration of her dual Kenyan-American heritage as she breaks barriers and makes history as the first winemaker in California from Kenya, Africa.

Along with Chadwick Spell, COO of The Wachira Group and Vice Chair of the Oakland African American Chamber of Commerce, Wachira distributes wines globally and imports Kenya-based Tusker beer, one of the most popular, home-produced beers in Africa. The Port of Oakland aided Wachira with the opportunity to access a worldwide market.

“As a Kenyan American, woman-owned business rooted in the Bay Area, The Wachira Group is making bold moves with help from the Port of Oakland’s small business programs and warehousing partnerships,” said Port of Oakland

Chief Public Engagement Officer Matt Davis. “At the Port of Oakland, supporting small and local businesses isn’t just a priority; it’s part of how we do business. We are committed to helping small and local businesses thrive through certifications, equitable contracting, grant funding, and partnerships that expand access and opportunity.”

The Port of Oakland encourages more local businesses to become certified with the Port so that they can be the first to learn about new contracting opportunities, bid notices, and general “how to do business with the Port.” For many of our competitively-bid opportunities, we give preferences to local firms and small and very small businesses. It’s an easy process with links on our **website**.

If you know of a person or business that the Port of Oakland has helped, let us know at **ddewitt@portoakland.com**. ♦

Video: Port of Oakland Supports Small Business: Wachira Wines



Dr. Christine Wachira

Founded in 2017 by Dr. Christine Wachira, Wachira Wines is rooted in a celebration of her dual Kenyan-American heritage as she breaks barriers and makes history as the first winemaker in California from Kenya, Africa.



GlobeRunners Visits HMM Opal

GlobeRunners, one of the nation's largest exporters, recently had the rare opportunity to step aboard the container ship HMM Opal for a vessel tour while it was docked at the Port of Oakland. For a company that ships thousands of containers across the globe, seeing the scale and sophistication of the vessel firsthand was both inspiring and energizing. The team expressed their excitement at walking the decks, exploring the bridge, and observing the advanced technology that powers one of the world's most efficient containerships. The experience reportedly reinforced GlobeRunners' pride in being part of the global supply chain and deepened their appreciation for the seamless coordination between logistics providers, carriers, and customers. A big thank you to Port Captain Tse for arranging this wonderful experience for one the Port of Oakland's largest customers through our gateway. ♡



About the HMM Opal

Named after the gemstone, the Opal symbolizes HMM's dedication to treating their customers' cargo as precious jewels. This 2024 13K TEU series vessel is equipped with Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) systems to reduce nitrogen oxide emissions, Ballast Water Treatment Systems (BWTS), Alternative Maritime Power (AMP) connections for shore power, electric heaters, etc., and is designed to meet the EEDI standards, reducing carbon emissions compared to previous models.



Upcoming Free Harbor Tour Schedule

September 12

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

90-minute cruise

REGISTRATION OPENS:
September 2, 8:00 pm

October 17 (Last cruise)

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm,

90-minute cruise

REGISTRATION OPENS:
October 6, 8:00 pm

Click [HERE](#)
for all the details.



Comments, please ...



Was there a story or feature that you especially like (or don't like)? Do you have a good story idea? **Let us know!** We welcome your feedback on the *Maritime News*. Send your comments to ddewitt@portoakland.com. Thank you! ♦



Maritime Moments

Albers Milling Company, a leading exporter and distributor of grain, feed, and flour, circa 1920. The high cost of contract dredging led the city to purchase its own dredge, shown here. Dredging is the Port's long-term investment in the regional economy and local jobs. Today, it is also done **sustainably**. ♦



**PORT OF
OAKLAND**

Seaport. Airport.
Everyone's Port.