



Jones Act Report

The Maritime Minute

News From The Maritime Cabotage Task Force

LATEST NEWS - JONES ACT DID NOT HINDER GULF SPILL CLEAN UP: The January 11, 2011 report from the non-partisan National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling confirmed the Jones Act did not prevent foreign vessels from assisting with the clean-up effort during the Deep Water Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico last year. “*Deep Water: The Gulf Oil Disaster and the Future of Offshore Drilling*” was prepared by the independent entity at the request of President Barack Obama. “This report confirms what Admiral Thad Allen and so many others have been saying all along: The Jones Act in no way, shape, and form hindered the BP clean-up effort,” said James Henry, Chairman of the Maritime Cabotage Task Force. [Click here to read more.](#)

PENNSYLVANIA SHIPYARD FINISHING UP \$20 MILLION TUG; HUGE BARGE NEXT: A \$20-million tug being built by Jones Act company Donjon Shipbuilding and Repair in Erie, Pa., was floated out of the dry dock on Dec. 22. The last fittings will be made afloat and the tug should begin sea trials in late January. Now the yard will begin full-scale construction of a 740-foot-long self-unloading barge that will be paired with the tug. When complete, the integrated tug/barge unit will haul limestone and other cargo on the Great Lakes. Construction of the barge is expected to boost employment at the yard to 200.

REP. TIM MURPHY APPLAUDS MODERNIZATION OF JONES ACT VESSEL: In a letter to Bruce Fernie, Vice President-Operation of Keystone Shipping Company, Rep. Tim Murphy (R-PA) praised the company for modernizing a Jones Act vessel. He credited Keystone for boosting job growth during an uncertain economy. “Productive industries create jobs, infuse money into the economy, and reinvest in their local economies. I am encouraged by your commitment to modernizing your fleet and delivering the best service possible to your customers. Americans are indebted to companies like yours, which continue to employ hundreds and ensure the steady flow of commerce along our nation’s waterways.” [Click here to read the letter.](#)

DID YOU KNOW? Total employment related to Jones Act domestic waterborne commerce is approximately 500,000 jobs.

The MCTF is the most broad-based coalition the U.S. maritime industry has ever assembled to promote the cabotage laws. Its 400-plus members span the United States and its territories and represent vessel owners and operators, shipboard and shoreside labor groups, shipbuilders and repair yards, marine equipment manufacturers and vendors, trade associations, dredging and marine construction contractors, pro-defense groups and companies in other modes of domestic transportation. These diverse but allied interests share a common goal: to promote the long-standing U.S. maritime cabotage laws. Upon a foundation of U.S. ownership, construction and crews, the United States has built an unsubsidized domestic fleet that is the world leader in efficiency, innovation and safety.