



## Mark A. Cleveland named President of SeaBridge

Successful Transportation Executive/Entrepreneur joins team bringing long-haul, scheduled coastal freight and passenger ferry service to the U.S.

[\(August, 24 2006\)](#) SeaBridgeUSA, which plans to launch a network of high-speed, freight and passenger roll-on/roll-off ships operating between major metropolitan areas, has named transportation executive/entrepreneur Mark A. Cleveland as its new president.

“Mark Cleveland is exactly the right person to lead SeaBridge’s development forward from here,” said SeaBridge CEO Michael Shea in announcing the Board’s selection of Cleveland as President. “Mark’s experience in bringing new ideas, services and products from concept to reality, his familiarity with the trucking industry, and his success as an entrepreneur and business executive make him an outstanding addition to the SeaBridge team.”

Initially, the company intends to operate its network on East and Gulf Coast routes. The company’s services will provide an attractive new “infrastructure” option to relieve rapidly growing highway congestion along these major coastal corridors.

“SeaBridge represents a fantastic and achievable vision, with a rational, visible and testable path to success,” said Cleveland in a letter to the SeaBridge Board. “Coastal freight and passenger ferry service, this is the last great, un-served frontier in American transportation. What caught my attention about this venture is how SeaBridge supports and cooperates with the fleet,” Cleveland says. “We intend to repeat and extend the intermodal success that rail-trucker cooperation has achieved during the past decade.”

Coastal and short sea freight and passenger ferry services in other parts of the world moved more than 1.3 billion people, more than 188 million cars and almost 29 million trailers in 2005. “Imagination and creativity, backed by years of careful, thorough analysis have enabled SeaBridge to build a solid economic, technical, operating and business foundation for success,” said Stephen Flott, Chairman and a founder of the company. “SeaBridge will provide the capacity to move more freight and passengers, faster, at lower total cost, with less environmental impact than expanding any comparable infrastructure alternative,” he added.

“We had to adapt and improve coastal ferry models from Europe for the U.S. market in order to extend route length, increase passenger comfort and add the speed required to meet the needs of our market,” added Shea, a merchant mariner with more than thirty-five years of vessel operating experience, the last twenty of which have been spent as the CEO of several successful US and foreign flag ocean transportation companies.

“I am excited to join Stephen and Mike on a team that will achieve the compelling vision of SeaBridge. We will do what many people in the public and private sectors just know intrinsically needs to be done: add freight capacity in as little time as possible at the least cost to the U.S. taxpayer,” added Cleveland.

“SeaBridge will provide a compelling option for long haul trucking customers to complete their movements without exposing drivers and equipment to frustrating delays and related risks on America’s increasingly congested coastal highways,” said Cleveland. SeaBridge will also provide an alternative to millions of motorists who will prefer to spend more time at their destinations and include the voyage itself in their travel plans. This is how you skip that long drive along frequently clogged coastal highways and still have your own car on vacation.”

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## Notes to Editors

1) SeaBridge is organized to deploy and operate fast coastal ferries with scheduled daily service to and from US port facilities. The company is creating a long term competitive advantage in coastal transportation by developing comfortable, high speed vessels sailing under the SeaBridge flag. Ferry transportation has long been a "mass transit" mode in many parts of the world with more than 1.3 billion passengers, more than 188 million cars and almost 29 million trailers transported last year. SeaBridge is ready to be the first-to-market provider, leading the inevitable emergence of scheduled deep sea, long distance passenger and freight ferry service in America.

A key element of the SeaBridge service will be use of a large, high-speed vessels designed and developed jointly by SeaBridge and BMT Nigel Gee and Associates Ltd, a subsidiary of BMT Ltd. SeaBridge, which holds an exclusive vessel development agreement, is using BMT's patented 'Pentamaran' design because it enables efficient, comfortable high-speed operations. The vessel has a maximum service speed of 42 knots (just over 48 mph). The SeaBridge 'Pentamaran' ro-pax design is configured to carry trailers and/or cars and offers 2,900 lane meters of car and truck capacity (approximately 173 trailers or 75 trailers and 500 cars). Passenger capacity is flexible, with up to 1,800 passenger berths provided. The preliminary design of the vessel is complete. SeaBridge and BMT have successfully conducted a detailed structural analysis using loads calculated from a 3D-hydrodynamic software package verified by strain gauged model tests. The structural design has undergone preliminary design appraisal preview by Det Norske Veritas, a leading international classification society.

Web site: [www.seabridgeusa.com](http://www.seabridgeusa.com)

### 2) BMT Ltd

BMT is an international design, engineering and risk management consultancy, working principally in the defense, energy, environment, marine technical services and transport sectors. BMT invests significantly in research.

Web site - [www.bmt.org](http://www.bmt.org)

### 3) BMT Nigel Gee and Associates Ltd.

BMT Nigel Gee and Associates is a leading design office for high-speed and innovative ships and boats, offering a full service from initial concept to detail design for an international client base in the commercial, military and yacht sectors.

Current projects include the first high speed car ferries to be built in the USA, a 50 knot naval research craft, the world's fastest mega-yacht and several vessels based on the Pentamaran patent.

Web site - [www.ngal.co.uk](http://www.ngal.co.uk)

4) Ferry transportation statistics presented are from "ShipPax Statistics 05: The Yearbook for Passenger Shipping Traffic Figures" published by ShipPax Information, Halmstad, Sweden.

Web site: [www.shippax.se](http://www.shippax.se)

5) For further information and high-res images please contact:

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