



## Slackwater Harbor open for business

The Port of Little Rock has officially opened the new dock facility in the Slackwater Harbor for business. The \$1,600,000 project was a joint venture between the Economic Development Administration, the City of Little Rock, and the Port of Little Rock. The new loading platform is designed to a maximum loading of 500,000 tons. It is 200' in length and 175' in depth. It features a winch system to maximize the movement of barges in the Slackwater Harbor with a minimum fuel usage.

Given that steel products are the largest volume of products shipped in to and out from the Port of Little Rock, it is only fitting that the first barge handled was a load of coil steel bound for Wheatland Tube in the Port's Industrial Park. The first outbound barge was a load of scrap steel being sent to a mini-mill.

Dock Road, providing access to the loading facility, was completed on July 29. The new dock will double the capacity at the Port of Little Rock. Mr. Jack Long of Logistic Services, Inc., stevedores to the Port of Little Rock and operators of the new dock, said "this outstanding new facility will significantly increase our capacity, and will allow us to broaden the range of products we can handle through the Port."

Several industries in the Port of Little Rock are undergoing expansions in the anticipation of the enhanced transportation opportunities that are being created and the amenities that have been added to the Industrial Park.

## Chairman's Report

### Gary Barket

It's hard to describe my excitement at the changes taking place at the Port of Little Rock and in the Slackwater harbor as we complete the needed infrastructure. With almost \$12,000,000 in projects completed, underway, or to be bid in early 2003, the Harbor will become the premier industrial site in all of Arkansas. The new dock facility opened last summer. The road network is virtually complete and the final segment will open in December. The new Bulk Products Pier will be completed next Spring. In early 2003, construction will begin on the rail loop around the Slackwater Harbor, the water and sewer systems, the increased storage area at the new dock and a 30,000 square foot warehouse and terminal building.

We've made great progress at your Port of Little Rock. Come see for yourself the economic engine we are building for the future!



Logistic Services, Inc. employees unloading the first barge of coil steel bound for the Wheatland Tube Company in the Little Rock Port Industrial Park.

## EDA Grant to develop infrastructure

*“Mark a great investment in the future of commercial trade in Arkansas by allowing the state to fully utilize the Arkansas River.”*

U.S. Congressman Vic Snyder’s office announced in mid-August that the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Administration has awarded \$3 million to the Little Rock Port Authority, Central Arkansas Water, and Little Rock Wastewater Utility for the Little Rock Port Authority.

The funds will be used to develop infrastructure, includ-

ing railroad, water, sewer, a warehousing/terminal building, and a new Bulk Products Pier.

“I am pleased to see the Little Rock Port received these much needed funds, which mark a great investment in the future of commercial trade in Arkansas by allowing the state to fully utilize the Arkansas River,” Congressman Snyder said.

Port Authority Chairman

Gary Barket noted that “We are deeply indebted to Congressman Vic Snyder and to Senators Tim Hutchinson and Blanche Lincoln for their unwavering support of these projects. The EDA grant provides the foundation for completion of the Slackwater Harbor infrastructure and will create an economic development engine unparalleled in the Little Rock area.”

## FirstMed Urgent Care Occupational Medicine

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possible. FirstMed will help you minimize lost time and increase worker productivity.

FirstMed is the only medical facility convenient to Little Rock’s industrial district. They are located in the heart of Little Rock’s industrial district.

## The Port to complete Major Road Construction

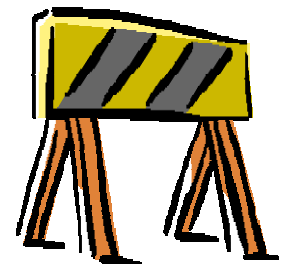
The final phase of the Slackwater Harbor road network development at the Port of Little Rock has begun with the awarding of a \$207,000 asphalt contract. The project will extend Slackwater Harbor Drive south to connect with Frazier Pike to create a southern gateway to the rapidly developing Slackwater Harbor Industrial Area. The contractor, Salt Creek, Inc., will

begin work in October and the job will be completed in December.

The project is a part of the TEA-21 enhancement program being used to extend rail service to the Harbor area along with major road construction. The Economic Development Administration has funded a new dock and terminal facility on the Harbor which the new road network will serve.

This road project is part of the Port of Little Rock’s continuing \$12 million construction commitment to complete the infrastructure in the Slackwater Harbor Industrial Area.

Mr. Gary Barket, Chairman of the Little Rock Port Authority, noted that “The development of these infrastructure projects would not have been possible without the dedicated commitment of



the entire Arkansas Congressional Delegation. When completed, the Harbor will be a premier industrial site

# WesPak Opens in Port

Wes-Pak, Inc. bought the 21-acre site and 12,260 SF facility in the Little Rock Port Industrial Park at 9100 Frazier Pike. Construction of a 20,000 SF addition should be completed soon.

Wes-Pak is a manufacturer of specialty containers and other unique products. Many of these products or designs are patented and are marketed both nationally as well as internationally.

Wes-Pak manufactures and markets a corrugated container that has a solid bottom and is designed to be knocked down flat after assembly for ease in shipment. The Wes-Pak design requires no assembly and once it's set up it retains fluids because of a coated interior. This specialty container is available in six different sizes and is used for many different applications throughout the medical industry.

Wes-Pak is in the process of marketing a new product called My First Toy Box™. It will be available for retail purchase in January 2003 in both boy and girl specific graphics. My First Toy Box™ is great for baby keepsakes, baby showers, and as an inexpensive gift box or toy box. My First Toy Box™ will have the trademark features that the Wes-Pak designs have become well known for including a solid bottom, high end graphics, and no assembly required for easy set up. My First Toy Box™ will be available at Mass/Discount Merchants, Specialty Shops, Hobby & Craft Stores, and Gift Shops.

Wes-Pak also manufactures and sells the Pop-Up Cooler™, a patented alternative to using a foam cooler as an event cooler. The Pop-Up Cooler™ is available in



multiple sizes and with custom graphics in convenience stores and grocery chains. The Pop-Up Cooler™ is designed with the same trademark solid bottom, sets up in seconds, and will cool beverages within minutes. The Pop-Up Cooler™ is also an environmentally safe alternative to cooling beverages or food related products.

To learn more about Wes-Pak products you can call 501.372.1900 or visit [www.wespakinc.com](http://www.wespakinc.com).

## Did you know? Barge Rail Facts

### Compare...

#### Cargo Capacity



One Barge	One 15 Barge Tow	Jumbo Hopper Car	100 Car Train Unit	Large Semi
1,500 Ton	22,500 Ton	100 Ton	10,000 Ton	26 Ton
52,500 Bushels	787,500 Bushels	3,500 Bushels	350,000 Bushels	910 Bushels
453,600 Gallons	6,804,000 Gallons	30,240 Gallons	3,024,000 Gallons	7,865 Gallons

#### Equivalent Units

One Barge	15 Jumbo Hopper Cars	58 Large Semis
One 15 Barge Tow	225 Car Train Units	870 Large Semis



#### Equivalent Lengths

One 15 Barge Tow .25 Miles	225 Car Train Units 2.75 Miles	870 Large Semis 11.5 Miles (Bumper to Bumper)
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# Meet the Board of Directors



The Little Rock Port Authority Board members are:

Gary Barket, *Chairman*  
Mike Maulden, *Vice Chairman*  
Jesse W. Mason, *Treasurer*  
Jon Wickliffe, *Member*  
Larry Alman, *Member*

## Little Rock Port Authority Mission Statement

Create high paying employment for the City of Little Rock and Central Arkansas by using the resources of the Port Industrial Park, River Terminal, Port Railroad, Foreign Trade Zone, and Slackwater Harbor.

To manage the assets of the Port such that Little Rock develops as a model center of international commerce, attracting domestic and foreign manufacturing investment, using Port transportation services to connect with U.S. markets and the deep water ports of the U.S. Gulf.



Coming soon is our updated web site.  
Check us out!

*If you have any articles for our newsletter, please email us at [lrpa@gte.net](mailto:lrpa@gte.net).*



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