

# SUNDAY SPOTLIGHT 14 AUGUST 2011

## SEAINTEL MARITIME ANALYSIS

### PORT LABOR UNIONS IN THE US

#### ILA vows to fight automation on US East Coast terminals

Last month, in a unanimous decision, the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA) elected Harold J. Daggett as their union's International President.

During his acceptance speech, he spoke with passion about the changes and challenges affecting the ILA, and how he plans to address them "head on." Robert McEllrath, International President of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU), was present in the audience to stand in solidarity and express his support for Daggett.

Given that the master contract between the ILA and the terminal operators is opened for renegotiation later in 2011, and given that the port labor

have decided to analyze the US port labor unions in general, and the stated intentions of the new ILA president in particular.

#### The ILA and the ILWU

Port labor in the US is organized in two unions – the ILA and the ILWU.

Organized in 1892, the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA) is the largest union of maritime workers in North America. They have approximately 50,000 members and cover longshore workers on the U.S. East and Gulf coasts, the Great Lakes, major U.S. Rivers, Eastern Canada, and Puerto Rico.

The International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) was formed on the U.S. West

### THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WORDS AND ACTION

Carriers are increasingly profiling themselves as environmentally responsible. They use different measurements methods, and focus on different aspects in an attempt to brand themselves as best in class. The question is whether this is what the customers want. Since the launch of our SealIntel's carrier environment benchmark report, we have received interesting feedback from different market players. Perhaps some of the most interesting feedback is indications that some – large – shippers with a high public green profile do not use environmental performance as an important parameter when deciding which carriers to use. Price seems to be more important –

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