

**T**he numbers are in and the results are clearly something to be proud about! It was an excellent year for both the public and private terminals in 2007.

According to figures recently released by the U.S. Census Bureau, the total value of cargo that moved through our Port was a record \$41.9 billion, a \$5 billion increase over 2006. Exports reached 11.3 million tons, which was 35 percent higher than the previous year and the highest since 1996.

Total foreign cargo moving through both the public and private terminals was 30.8 million tons. This means for the fourth straight year Baltimore exceeded

Like most of our nation's ports, Baltimore's imports in 2007 were impacted by the declining value of the American dollar. Maritime trade periodicals and other media outlets reported the dollar would have a negative impact on imports and they were right. Here at the Port of Baltimore, we saw a decline of a little more than 12 percent in imports for 2007. I expect imports to remain below par until the dollar value improves.

Our positive overall year allowed us to maintain our strong national standing. We remain No. 1 in the United States for roll-on/roll-off, trucks, imported forest products, imported gypsum and

## Most Recent Statistics Prove Port's Success

more than 30 million tons of cargo handled.

General cargo through the public terminals last year reached an all-time high of 8.7 million tons. This marked the sixth consecutive record year of general cargo tonnage (autos, steel, forest products, roll-on/roll-off equipment plus containers) through the public terminals.

Exports skyrocketed for both the public and private terminals. Auto exports saw an increase of 80 percent; forest products were up 33 percent; steel soared 118 percent; and roll-on/roll-off units rose by 53 percent. The public terminals also registered a 10 percent increase in export containers.

imported ore. We also jumped from second to first for exported automobiles and for imported sugar.

Even during these tough financial times, we are showing the maritime community-at-large that the Port of Baltimore, with its highly proficient workforce and commitment to quality, has what it takes to survive and excel in this highly competitive business.



**James J. White**  
*Executive Director*