



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**COSCO CONTAINER LINES AND HANJIN SHIPPING ADD DIRECT CONTAINER SERVICE BETWEEN ASIA AND THE PORT OF MOBILE**

**Mobile, Alabama – June 3, 2016** – The Alabama State Port Authority (ASPA) is pleased to announce a new joint weekly, direct container shipping service between the Port of Mobile and key ports in Asia. COSCO Container Lines “CSCL” and Hanjin Shipping, currently the 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>TH</sup> largest container carriers in the world respectively, are expected to make its first call at APM Terminals Mobile on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

The new joint Gulf of Mexico Express (GME) service will connect Alabama shippers to the Ports of Shanghai, Ningbo, Xiamen, and Yantian, as well as provide transshipment service through the Port of Cristobal in Panama. The U.S. Gulf rotation includes both the Ports of Mobile and Houston. “This new service further strengthens the port’s position in a major trade point serving Asia,” said James K. Lyons, chief executive officer for the Port Authority.

The CSCL/Hanjin GME service is the third all-water Asia service to be added to the Port Authority’s container terminal since it opened in late 2008. CSCL/Hanjin join the world’s top three container carriers already providing weekly, direct service between Mobile and ports in China, Hong Kong, Kora and Singapore. “With the addition of CSCL/Hanjin service, the three weekly calls could attract additional economic development opportunities in the state for companies focused on Asian markets,” added Lyons.

The Authority’s partner in the container terminal at Mobile is APM Terminals. APM Terminals, headquartered in The Hague, Netherlands, leverages more than a century of shipping industry experience in port operations and management. APM Terminals global trade network includes 72 operating terminal facilities in 69 countries. The Alabama State Port Authority owns and operates the State of Alabama’s public, deep-water port facilities at the Port of Mobile. The Port Authority’s vessel and port terminal activities generates over 124,300 Alabama jobs and provides \$19.4 Billion in economic value to the state. Learn more at [www.asdd.com](http://www.asdd.com) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/AlabamaStatePortAuth](https://www.facebook.com/AlabamaStatePortAuth)

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