

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**International Longshoremen's Association and New York Shipping
Association Reach Tentative Six Year Agreement on Local Contract**

NEW YORK – The International Longshoremen's Association, AFL-CIO (ILA) in the Port of New York and New Jersey today reached tentative agreement on local terms for a new six year contract with New York Shipping Association, Inc. (NYSA). ILA members in the Port of New York and New Jersey are scheduled to vote on June 8, 2004 to ratify the local agreement and a new six-year Master Contract negotiated last month.

The ILA represents some 3,500 waterfront workers in the Port of New York and New Jersey. NYSA represents the New York/New Jersey Port Employers and Ocean Carriers.

"We're delighted that both components of the new six year agreement – the Master Contract issues and local conditions – have now been completed in the Port of New York and New Jersey well before the June 8th ratification vote and more than four months before the current contract expires," said John Bowers, President of the ILA and the union's chief negotiator. "Like the Master Contract that was successfully negotiated last month, our local agreement in the Port of New York and New Jersey includes a package that satisfies the demands of the ILA workers and those issues important to the NYSA employers," said Frank McDonough, President of NYSA and management's chief negotiator.

ILA locals throughout the Port of New York and New Jersey have scheduled meetings on Wednesday, June 2, 2004 to explain the details of the Master Contract and local agreements to ILA members. "We predict overwhelming support for the new agreement," Mr. Bowers said.

Details of the local agreement will not be available to the public until ILA members ratify the contract.

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For additional information, contact Jim McNamara of ILA at (212) 425-1200, ext. 327 or Beverly Fedorko of NYSA at (732) 452-7800