

# APPENDIX B-4-12: UNIFIED PORT OF SAN DIEGO

## Port Address

687 Switzer Street, San Diego, CA 92101-7810

## Port Website

[www.portofsandiego.org](http://www.portofsandiego.org)

## Port Contact

Aimee L. Heim, Maritime Operations, [aheim@portofsandiego.org](mailto:aheim@portofsandiego.org)  
Phone (619) 686-6390; Fax (619) 686-8055

## Caltrans Contacts

District 11: Jose Marquez; (619) 688-3193, [Jose\\_Marquez@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Jose_Marquez@dot.ca.gov)  
Headquarters: Julie Hutcheson; (916) 653-1965, [Julie\\_Hutcheson@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Julie_Hutcheson@dot.ca.gov)

The Port of San Diego (Port) is a natural, deep water harbor located approximately 96 nautical miles southeast of the Port of Los Angeles and less than 20 miles north of the United States-Mexico International Border. Located within the San Diego Bay, the port is protected from the Pacific Ocean by two peninsulas. The area's temperate climate makes it conducive to year-round cargo handling.

The San Diego Unified Port District, established in 1962 by the State of California, is a public agency that manages the harbor area. Economic activity within the Port supports 57,000 jobs, excluding military activity. Maritime vessel and cargo activity directly supports 42,000 jobs, and is responsible for a \$7.6 billion economic impact to the San Diego region

(<http://www.portofsandiego.org/portals/working-waterfront.html>).

The Port's maritime facilities include two cargo terminals, the Tenth Avenue Marine Terminal and the National City Marine Terminal, and one cruise ship terminal.

Because of its location, deepwater berths, and proximity to highways and rail, the Port of San Diego was designated as one of United State's 17 "strategic ports" by the Maritime Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation. San Diego is home to the fourth largest naval base in the United States, and is home to the only major shipyard on the west coast of the United States. It is the first port for vessels coming from the west coasts of Mexico, Central America, and South America.



## PORT INFRASTRUCTURE

Channel depth	42 feet
Shoreline	33 miles
Acres, land and water	6,000
Rail Access	On-dock
Other facilities	Shipyards, Boatyards, and Fisheries

## PORT TRADE CHARACTERISTICS

### Major Trading Partners 2013

Japan, South Korea, China, Vietnam, Indonesia, India, Australia, Norway, Germany, Belgium, Spain, Great Britain, Brazil, Ecuador, Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua

## 2013

### Imports

- Automobiles
- Refrigerated fruit
- Steel
- Minerals
- Project Cargo
- Windmill Components
- Transformers
- Generators
- Construction Materials
- Heavy Equipment and Machinery
- Lumber
- Chemicals
- Military Cargo
- Bauxite

### Exports

- Oil and Gas
- Automobiles
- Heavy Equipment and Machinery
- Military Cargo
- Chemicals
- Refrigerated Fruit
- Boxboard
- Soda Ash
- Windmill Components
- Project Cargo

- The Port specializes in break-bulk, bulk, and roll-on/ roll-off cargo. It also handles rolling stock, project cargo, heavy equipment and machinery, fertilizer, cement, and fresh produce in containers and break bulk.
- Automobiles are the Port's #1 import in terms of value.
- Annually, over 2.2 billion bananas are passed through the Dole Food Company's facilities at the Tenth Avenue Terminal.
- The largest on-dock cold storage facility on the West Coast is located at the Port of San Diego.
- The Port is experiencing a rebound from an increase in imports of automobile, windmill components, and project cargo.
- Pasha Automotive operates a 157 acre terminal that handles vehicle imports and provides post production services to make vehicles "show room ready."

### PORT STATISTICS - 2013

- One of every ten automobiles imported into the U.S. comes through the Port of San Diego.
- The Port ranks in the top third of the nation's 360 commercial sea and river ports and 28<sup>th</sup> among the U.S. ports that handle containers.
- In 2013, the Port achieved the following:

- Processed more than 350 thousand automobiles.
- Processed 2.7 million metric revenue tons of cargo, with a container volume of 102,156 Twenty-foot Equivalent Units (TEUS).
- Value of imported cargo was \$4.79 billions
- Value of exported cargo was \$77.9 millions
- 556 Vessel Arrivals

## Surface Transportation Network and Intermodal Connections

### Highway Access Routes

Major State Highway System routes serving the Port include I-5, I-8, and SR-15.

### Trucking

Trucks carry the majority of the cargo going to and from the Port. Ninety percent of Tenth Avenue Marine Terminal shipments and fifty percent of National City Marine Terminal shipments travel by truck, the remaining shipments travel by rail.

### Freight Rail

#### *Class I – BNSF Railway*

BNSF provides rail service along the coast primarily for automobiles. BNSF interfaces in Los Angeles with a primary freight route that goes eastward to Chicago, Memphis, and Kansas City.

#### *Short Line - San Diego and Imperial Valley Railroad (SDIY)*

SDIY is a line haul carrier with 8-mile of track services and 12 berths. SDIY provides connections with BNSF, Union Pacific Railroad, and Baja California Railroad in Mexico.

### BUSINESS CHALLENGES

- The Port is affected by urbanization and gentrification, which forces shared and incompatible land uses.
- The Port experienced the impacts of the economic downturn, though cargo tonnage is trending up faster than the West Coast as a whole.

## ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

- Climate Action Plan – The Plan, approved by the Board of Commissioners in December 2013, sets a goal to reduce the port’s 2006 greenhouse gas emission (GHGE) by 10 percent by the year 2020, using 2006 as a baseline.
- Clean Air Program – The Port initiated a program to address air pollution from goods movement sources, such as ships, trucks, and trains at the marine and cruise ship terminals.
- Green Truck Program – All heavy-duty trucks accessing the Port of San Diego maritime terminals must comply with the clean air requirements under the State of California’s Drayage Truck Regulation.
- In 2009, in an effort to reduce vessel emissions, shore power was installed at the cruise ship Tenth Avenue terminal, the Port implemented a voluntary vessel speed reduction program.
- The Port received an Environmental Protection Agency Climate Leadership Award in 2012.

### CALTRANS FOCUS AREAS

- I-5, SR-15, and I-805 at traffic capacity levels
- Lack of dedicated truck lanes and bypass routes

## PORT-RELATED PROJECTS

### Transportation Corridors Improvement Fund (TCIF)

- At-grade freeway access improvements in the vicinity of the National City Marine Terminal, were completed in 2013.

## PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Unified Port of San Diego Master Plan, Port of San Diego, October 2012

Compass Strategic Plan 2012-2017, Port of San Diego

San Diego Unified Port District Maritime Business Plan Update, Port of San Diego, December 2008

Natural Resources Management Plan, Port of San Diego, March 2013

## SOURCES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Compass Strategic Plan 2012-2017, Port of San Diego, [www.portofsandiego.org](http://www.portofsandiego.org)

Ron Popham, Unified Port of San Diego, email dated 01/09/14

San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), [www.sandag.org](http://www.sandag.org)

San Diego Unified Port District Maritime Business Plan Update, Port of San Diego, December 2008  
[www.portofsandiego.org](http://www.portofsandiego.org)

Unified Port of San Diego Master Plan, Port of San Diego, October 2012,  
[www.portofsandiego.org](http://www.portofsandiego.org)

World Port Source, [www.worldportsource.com](http://www.worldportsource.com)

## Other Port Projects

- Tenth Avenue Marine Terminal Modernization Project
- Freeway Access Projects
- National City Marine Terminal Cargo Wharf, Rail Optimization, and Parking Facility Projects

## TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PARTNERS

- Caltrans
- California Air Resources Board (ARB)
- City of Chula Vista
- City of Coronado
- City of Imperial Beach
- City of National City
- City of San Diego
- Maritime Administration (MARAD)
- San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)
- U.S. Coast Guard
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- California Environmental Protection Agency