

The CAPE FEAR is one of the four LASH barge carriers in the new RRF managed by Patriot Contract Services.



## MARAD AWARDS RRF SHIP MANAGER CONTRACTS

### READY RESERVE FORCE SHIP MANAGER CONTRACTS

Ship Manager	RRF Vessel Assigned	Design	Vessel Location
Patriot Contract Services, LLC Walnut Creek, CA,	Admiral William M. Callahan	RO/RO	Alameda, CA
	Cape Orlando	RO/RO	
	Cape Gibson	MCDS	
	Cape Girardeau	MCDS	
	Cape Fear	LASH Barge Carrier	
	Cape Florida	LASH Barge Carrier	Orange, TX
	Cape Flattery	LASH Barge Carrier	Beaumont, TX
	Cape Farewell	LASH Barge Carrier	
Keystone Shipping Services, Inc. Bala Cynwyd, PA	Cape Race	RO/RO	Portsmouth, VA
	Cape Rise	RO/RO	
	Cape Ray	RO/RO	
	Cape Victory RO/RO	RO/RO	Beaumont, TX
	Cape Vincent RO/RO	RO/RO	
	Cape Kennedy	RO/RO	New Orleans, LA
	Cape Knox	RO/RO	
Marine Transport Lines Secaucus, NJ	Cape Edmont	RO/RO	Charleston, SC
	Cape Ducato	RO/RO	
	Cape Decision	RO/RO	
	Cape Douglas	RO/RO	
	Cape Diamond	RO/RO	
	Cape Domingo	RO/RO	
Matson Navigation Company Oakland, CA	Comet	RO/RO	Alameda, CA
	Meteor	RO/RO	
	Cape Jacob	MCDS	Diego Garcia
Horizon Lines, Inc. Kenilworth, NJ	Cape Lambert	RO/RO	Wilmington, NC
	Cape Lobos	RO/RO	

MCDS - Modular Cargo Delivery System vessels provide underway replenishment to Navy Combatant and Auxiliary ships.

RO/RO - Roll-On/Roll-Off ships are equipped with ramps to allow the rapid loading and unloading of rolling stock including military vehicles, non-self-deployable aircraft as well as outsized military cargo.

LASH Barge Carrier - Lighter Aboard Ship (LASH) barge carriers have a gantry crane and are designed to carry lighterage (barges).

Five MEBA contracted companies have been awarded contracts to manage a total of 26 ships for the Maritime Administration's newly announced 54-ship Ready Reserve Force (RRF) fleet.

MEBA companies involved include Patriot Contract Services (8 ships); Matson Navigation (3 ships); Horizon Lines (2 ships); Keystone Shipping Company (7 ships) and Marine Transport Lines (6 ships). Matson and Horizon are newcomers to the program expanding the pool of MEBA operators.

MEBA Pres. Ron Davis was pleased that Patriot proved a big winner in the bid process and pointed out, "I am also happy that Matson and Horizon have been christened as new MarAd operators. However, it is disappointing that Keystone and MTL will be operating fewer vessels under the new RRF program and that Mormac Marine could not find a place in the program. Those absences actually will result in fewer MEBA jobs in the RRF despite increasing the MEBA RRF fleet from 25 to 26 vessels."

One of the problems with Mormac may be that the company no longer operates any commercial vessels and has substantially downsized over the past four years. This is unfortunate because our contracted relationship ensures jobs for both MEBA mates and engineers.

Nevertheless, MEBA-contracted companies have recorded a net gain of one ship under the new RRF -- surprising considering that the program has once again been downsized. In 2000, the RRF fleet stood at 74 ships, 20 more vessels than the current fleet. And prior to that, the program stood at 96 ships.

The new program should be fully in effect by September 31st. Already, many of the RRF ships have been slotted for service in the Hurricane-torn Gulf states as well as continued service in support of our efforts in Iraq.