

U.S. GREAT LAKES MERCHANT SEAMAN EMPLOYMENT FACT SHEET

April 2006

The focus of this Fact Sheet is to provide a concentrated source of information for obtaining mariner employment on U.S.-flag, Great Lakes' commercial vessels. Many of the employment opportunities on the Lakes are listed here. Some vessel operators directly employ unlicensed seamen, while others are required by contract to hire only from union sources.

Of particular attention to deck officers, standing watch only in open waters is allowed without a first class (Great Lakes) pilotage endorsement for your license.

Please note that all commercial vessel employment requires a Merchant Mariner Document. This can be obtained through any U.S. Coast Guard Regional Examination Center.

LICENSED OFFICER

American Maritime Officers	419-255-3940	www.amo-union.org
Int'l Org. of Masters, Mates, & Pilots	216-776-1667	www.bridgedeck.org
Marine Engineers Beneficial Assoc.	216-579-6322	www.d1meba.org

UNLICENSED SEAMAN / UNIONS

Seafarers International Union/NMU	810-794-4988 (MI) 218-722-4110 (MN)	www.seafarers.org
United Steelworkers Local 5000	440-243-7000	web – none

UNLICENSED SEAMAN / COMPANIES CONDUCTING DIRECT HIRING

Central Marine Logistics	219-922-2644	www.centralmarinelogistics.com
Grand River Navigation	440-930-2024	web - none
Great Lakes Fleet/Key Lakes, Inc.	800-535-2321	web - none
Interlake Steamship Co.	800-327-3855 x7140	www.interlakesteamship.com
Lake Express Ferry/Hornblower Marine	812-941-9993	www.hornblowermarine.com
Lake Michigan Car Ferry	231-843-1509	www.ssbadger.com
Oglebay Norton Marine Services	216-861-8742	www.oglebaynorton.com

LICENSING / MERCHANT MARINER DOCUMENT

Regional Examination Center US Coast Guard, Toledo, OH	419-418-6010	www.uscg.mil/d9/www/mso/toledo/rec.html
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MARITIME ADMINISTRATION'S WEB ASSISTANCE

A Career Afloat	www.marad.dot.gov/acareerafloat
Employment & Labor-Management Affiliations Guides	www.marad.dot.gov/publications/emmgltlab.htm
Mariner Information	www.marad.dot.gov/mariners

SUPPLEMENTAL WEB SITES

GL Maritime Academy – www.nmc.edu/maritime	NOAA (weather, charting) - www.noaa.gov
Great Lakes & Seaway Shipping – www.boatnerd.com	Passenger Vessel Assoc. - www.passengervessel.com
International Shipmasters' Assoc. - www.shipmaster.org	Seaway System - www.greatlakes-seaway.com
Lake Carriers' Assoc. – www.lcaships.com	Training – www.star-center.com