 

Savage Companies Port of Stockton

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Port of Stockton Selects Savage to Operate M-580 Marine Highway Corridor**

Project set to reduce I-580 traffic and improve safety and air quality

Salt Lake City, Utah – December 5, 2011 – The Port of Stockton, California has selected Savage Companies (Savage) to manage the M-580 Marine Highway Corridor between the Port of Stockton and Port of Oakland. The Port of Stockton and Savage have entered into an agreement in which Savage will provide Container-on-Barge service including management, marketing, logistics and operating services for the project. Savage will immediately begin marketing the M-580 Marine Highway to potential customers of the Container-on-Barge service. Operations of the M-580 Marine Highway are scheduled to commence during the first quarter 2012.

In February 2010, the U.S. Department of Transportation announced the award of a $30 million TIGER grant for the Ports of Oakland, Stockton and West Sacramento to develop the infrastructure necessary to establish a container-on-barge service between the Central Valley and the San Francisco Bay area. The Port of Stockton received $13 Million of the grant to support the purchase of two 140-ton mobile harbor cranes, and also to make the necessary improvements at the Port to support the project. The Port of Stockton has purchased the two cranes with a scheduled delivery of January 2012. In addition to the cranes, the Port has purchased two barges to be dedicated to the project. The barges are scheduled to undergo modifications in order to handle containers. The barge modifications are scheduled to be completed early in the first quarter 2012.

“We are very pleased to have selected Savage to manage our Marine Highway program. The strength of their proposal combined with their existing supply chain capabilities insures the Northern California Marine Highway will offer efficient and extensive services to anyone shipping by container in our region and beyond” Port Director Richard Aschieris said.

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The M-580 Marine Highway will offer an environmentally friendly and fuel efficient way to transport containers between the Ports of Oakland and Stockton. The M-580 Marine Highway will help to reduce congestion along the I-580/I-5 corridors and the improve air quality and public safety in the region.

“This is a great example of a public-private partnership that will help shape the future of freight transportation in Northern California in an environmentally conscious and sustainable manner.” said Allen Alexander, Chairman and CEO of Savage.

In addition to the environmental benefits, this project will also help to drive efficiencies and cost savings to potential M-580 customers. It has been estimated that approximately 1,600 containers per day move between the Port of Oakland and Stockton causing I-580 to be one of the most congested highways in the State.

The M-580 will serve as an overweight corridor offering cost savings to exporters by allowing them to load containers to full capacity reducing the number of containers required. The M-580 will be a cost competitive and effective long term logistics solution offering great benefits to customers.

**About Savage**

Savage is an innovative supply chain solutions company, dedicated to creating value for customers who depend on it to move and manage critical materials with worry-free consistency. With 150 locations in 36 US states and five Canadian provinces, the company is a North American leader in the creation and delivery of bundled supply chain management services that are tailored to meet the needs of customers in electric power generation, coal production, oil refining, railroad, chemical and other industries.

For further information regarding Savage, please visit [www.savageservices.com](http://www.savageservices.com)

**About the Port of Stockton, California**

The Port of Stockton is an international port with 35-foot draft and secure 24/7 access. With more than 2000 acres, and plenty of room to grow, the Port provides multiple services and handles import/export cargo such as containers, steel, wind energy components, ro/ro and heavy lift/project cargo. In addition, the Port offers warehousing, refrigeration, cold storage and distribution centers. It has seven million square feet of U.S. Dept. of Agriculture-approved storage. The Port has excellent access to I-5 and I-580 and is jointly served by the BNSF and UP railroads that can carry cargo to and from the Port from locations throughout their respective networks. The Port is located in Foreign Trade Zone #231.

For further information on the Port of Stockton, please visit [www.portofstockton.com](http://www.portofstockton.com)

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