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News Release

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WINDMILL BLADES ARRIVE AT PORT OF OLYMPIA

The *Industrial Destiny* arrived at the Port of Olympia Tuesday, April 22, 2008, to discharge a cargo of windmill blades destined for wind energy projects in the western U. S. This is the fourth wind energy vessel to call in Olympia since May 2006, and the Port anticipates additional shipments later this year.

Crews are scheduled to work about three shifts to unload the vessel, including one night shift Tuesday. The vessel is expected to be in port about three days.

The vessel will discharge about 150 two-part sets of windmill blades manufactured in Brazil for GE Wind Energy that is supplying them to various wind energy projects in Oregon, South Dakota and Wyoming. The blades are about 125 feet long and weigh on average about 35,000 pounds each. They will be stored at the port for 30-45 days prior to being loaded on trucks for shipment.

“This is the kind of cargo we like to come through the Port,” said Port Commission President Bill McGregor. “Not only does it demonstrate the Port’s capacity for handling difficult cargoes, it establishes Olympia as a partner in supplying equipment to generate clean alternative energy.”

Wind energy is a large emerging market, serving a nationwide need for environmentally friendly, affordable energy.

The vessel was built in 2006 in Portugal and is registered in Antigua and Barbuda. It was chartered for this cargo by General Electric.

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About the Port of Olympia

The southernmost deepwater port on Puget Sound, the Port of Olympia is Thurston County’s partner in economic opportunity. The Port owns and operates a diversified international shipping terminal, an established niche facility that handles a range of breakbulk and project cargoes. The Port also owns and operates a strategically located regional airport, a vibrant 656-slip recreational marina and boat haulout/repair facility, and a thriving real estate division. A community port, it generates an estimated 2,600 jobs in Thurston County and indirectly over 5,000 jobs in Washington State.