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Report: Shale Boom Aiding N. American Transportation; State Dept. Draft Assessment A Boost For Keystone XL

NOTE: This Shale Oil and Gas
Newsletter from Luber-finer is a quick
read on the shale oil and gas market
as it pertains to opportunities or
"need to know" news related to
Luber-finer products. If you have
news to share, please send an email
(with a link) to Darren Wight at
dwight@deanhouston.com.

Report: Shale Boom Aiding North American Transportation Sector

A recent report by RBC Capital Markets and the Economist Intelligence Unit indicates that the United States shale oil and gas boom is positively transforming many business sectors, including transportation.

"The coming years will be transformative for companies, particularly those in the energy, infrastructure, manufacturing and transportation sectors, which will, in turn, create opportunities for both investors and corporations," said Richard Talbot, co-head of Global Research for RBC Capital Markets.

Key transportation-related findings in the report include: low-cost shale gas will be especially beneficial to companies that rely on feedstock or direct energy usage to compete on a global level. The impact on the transportation industry will be felt via increased natural-gas-based usage, with diversification in feedstock deployment predicted to take place across the industry.

Full stories: http://bit.ly/13Risjc
SOURCE: HDT/TruckingInfo.com

Report: State Department Draft Assessment Boosts Keystone XL

A draft assessment that is being compiled by the U.S. State department preliminary shows that it has no major objections to the Keystone XL oil pipeline, though a State department official warned that the report was a work in progress, according to Bloomberg News.

Despite the cautious assessment, the State Department's apparent preliminary support for the muchdelayed project was seen as a positive for oil industry executives, who, along bipartisan coalitions in both the U.S. House and Senate, have been encouraging Pres.

Obama to greenlight the project, which will carry oil that is produced in the Canadian oil sands fields in Alberta to U.S. Gulf Coast refineries.

Though the preliminary draft assessment noted that carrying the oil produced in Canada via the Keystone XL pipeline would boost greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, they would be lower than the GHGs that would be produced if other methods of transport would be used to transport the oil, including rail, trucks and barges.

According to the report, the Keystone XL pipeline would release annual totals of GHGs equivalent to 626,000 passenger cars, but moving the oil via trains to existing pipelines would release 8% more GHGs.

Full story: http://bit.ly/XBYZyZ
SOURCE: Processing Magazine

Upcoming Industry Events

NAPE East

Pittsburgh, PA - April 10-12

OGIS New York

New York, NY - April 15-17

Energy Executive Management Program

Norman, OK - April 15-19

Complete list at www.luberfinerenergy.com

Featured Product



New Luber-finer Time Release
Technology (TRT™) – TRT™ filters
are a breakthrough in oil management
systems. Luber-finer TRT™ filters help
your fleet extend oil-change intervals
by impeding oil degradation found in
modern diesel engines. Calculate
your TRT maintenance costs at
www.luberfiner.com.

Upcoming Luber-finer Ads

Rock Products April
Well Servicing April
Oil & Gas Product News April
Amer. Oil & Gas Reporter May

South Dakota Company Looking To Supply Frack Sand To Bakken

Cambrian Enterprises has registered frack sand mining claims near Deadwood, Rapid City and Custer, SD. Currently, much of the frack sand used around the country comes from Wisconsin.

Frack sand is the proppant of choice across much of the Bakken and it is estimated that more than 2 million tons of frack sand were consumed during Bakken well-completion operations in 2012. At some point, heavy-duty trucks are involved in the delivery of every grain of frack sand to the drilling site, whether it is offloaded from railcars near the wellhead or driven directly to the site from the sand mine.

Full story: http://bit.ly/128HhSO SOURCE: BakkenShale.com

Study: U.S. Trucking Fleets Becoming More Fuel-Efficient

A recent study of more than 41,000 tractors and 125,000 trailers by the North American Council for Freight Efficiency (NACFE) shows an increased rate of improved fuel consumption by U.S. fleets. The survey results found that fleets were saving an average of \$5,700 per year in fuel expenses, which is a \$1,300 savings per truck per year improvement from NACFE's 2011 study.

Full story: http://bit.ly/Z1JtbH SOURCE: Truck News Daily

Census Bureau: For-Hire Trucking Revenues Increased 5.8% in 2012

Revenues posted by the United States for-hire trucking industry rose 5.8% in 2012 to \$228.3 billion, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Quarterly Services Survey. The general freight segment experienced a 7.1% increase, while revenues for specialized trucking rose at a 3.1% clip. Since 2009, total for-hire revenues are up 25.4%.

Full story: http://bit.ly/16nPJOr SOURCE: TruckGauge.com

ACT Research: February Class 8 Truck Orders Exceed 23,000 Units

In March, ACT Research reported that Class 8 truck orders climbed above 23,000 units in February, which made it the fifth consecutive month that orders exceeded 20,000 units.

It was also the first month since December 2011 that the number of Class 8 orders rose above the level of the previous year, in this case, December 2010. In another positive indicator, a surge in step-van orders pushed medium-duty demand above the prevailing trend.

Full story: http://bit.ly/16nLW30
SOURCE: Fleet Owner

Report: Confidence Rises In Equipment Lease Finance Market

The Equipment Leasing & Finance Foundation recently released its February 2013 Monthly Confidence Index for the Equipment Finance Industry and the results indicate that confidence in the equipment finance market continues to grow.

Overall, the Monthly Confidence Index stood at 58.7 in February, which was up from 54.2 in January, and represented the third consecutive month that it had experienced an increase.

Full story: http://bit.ly/10vB7uG
SOURCE: HDT/TruckingInfo.com

TMC Releases Latest Edition Of Recommended Practices Manual

The American Trucking Associations' Technology & Maintenance Council has released its 2012-13
Recommended Practices Manual.
Comprising more than 2,900 pages in two volumes, the Recommended Practices Manual is an invaluable source for service providers and equipment manufacturers who rely on it for the purchase, design, maintenance and performance of heavy-duty truck equipment.

Full story: http://bit.ly/16waA4d SOURCE: Truck Parts & Service

North Dakota Set Crude Oil Production Record in December

A March report from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) noted that crude oil production in North Dakota averaged an all-time high of 770,000 barrels per day (b/d) in December 2012, trailing only Texas and the U.S. federal offshore region, while accounting for 10% of the nation's total crude oil production.

Most of the crude oil that is produced in North Dakota is gathered and transported by trucks to railcars that are leaving the state. In the four counties where production is concentrated—Dunn, McKenzie, Montrail and William—about 75% of the produced oil is transported by truck and transloaded into railcars.

Full stories: http://bit.ly/10pw273
SOURCE: Progressive Railroading

Study: Eagle Ford Shale Added \$61 Billion To Economy In 2012

A new study by the University of Texas at San Antonio's Center for Community and Business Research notes that development of oil and natural gas resources in the Eagle Ford play in Texas produced more than \$61 in economic impact in 2012.

In addition, the region supported 116,000 full-time jobs for workers in oil and gas, drilling, support operations, pipeline construction and transportation. The report also estimates that the Eagle Ford shale will generate \$89 billion and 127,000 jobs for the region by 2022.

Full story: http://bit.ly/128EnNM SOURCE: EagleFordShale.com

Allstate Peterbilt Opens New Facility In Grand Forks, ND

Allstate Peterbilt has opened a new parts-only facility in Grand Forks, ND. The 7,000-square-foot location offers an inventory of OEM and aftermarket parts for medium- and heavy-duty trucks and trailers.

Full story: http://bit.ly/10qpW7w SOURCE: Truck Parts & Service