



## Pacific Maritime Association Headquarters

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August 30, 2002

**To:** Longshore Payroll Services Users, Vessel Operators, Agents for Vessel Operators, Contracting Stevedores, Terminal Operators, and other Parties who, through contracts or other arrangements, have assumed obligations required by Collective Bargaining Agreements which include participation in Benefit Plans administered by PMA.

Assessment rates for the 2002/2003 fiscal year have been approved by the Board of Directors and have been posted to the PMA Internet site at [www.pmanet.org](http://www.pmanet.org). Man-hour assessments are effective for the payroll week beginning 8:00 a.m. August 31, 2002. Tonnage assessments are effective for cargo reported on vessels sailing after 12:01 a.m. September 1, 2002. The rate categories are summarized below.

### **Benefits Plans**

A significant increase in the cost of longshore employee health benefits accounted for most of the increase in Benefits Plans Assessments. The change in the assessment divisor, approved by a vote of the PMA Membership on August 23, 2002, shifted an additional portion of the Benefits Plans assessments from the man-hour sector to the tonnage sector. The man-hour benefits assessments will increase from \$11.04 to \$13.11. For a discussion of the assessment divisor see PMA Annual Report 2001, pages 47-50.

### **Other PMA Assessments**

The CFS Program Fund assessment on TEU's remains unchanged. The 401(k) Longshore and Clerk assessment increased 1 cent reflecting a small decrease in the total assessable hours paid. Walking Boss 401(k) remains unchanged.

### **PMA Cargo Dues**

PMA Cargo Dues for PMA Members remain unchanged.

### **Credit Assessment**

In December 2001, the PMA Board of Directors, following a vote of the PMA membership, established a line of credit as an ordinary and prudent business practice. The assessment is for the initiation and maintenance of the credit line.

### **Payroll Services**

Payroll services remain unchanged.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael H. Wechsler', is written over a white background.

Michael H. Wechsler  
Senior Vice President  
Chief Financial Officer