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# TABLE SUR LE TRANSPORT MARITIME COURTE DISTANCE DU QUÉBEC

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No. 1, Summer 2005

This is the first newsletter of the *Quebec Shortsea Shipping Roundtable*, which was created a year ago on the advice of the St. Lawrence Shipoperators and the recommendation of the *Forum de concertation sur le transport maritime* [Joint forum on marine transportation in Quebec]. The *Roundtable* supports the development of shortsea shipping (SSS) services with an unloading point in Quebec. It does so by acting as an information and expertise centre and by promoting the integration of SSS into domestic and continental transportation networks. The *Roundtable* looks at the transportation of both goods and passengers.



## Why should we be interested in shortsea shipping (SSS)?

- ✧ Thanks to Quebec's well-developed port network, SSS fits in well with the transportation network, even in the most remote river areas.
- ✧ SSS offers shippers, and society as a whole, competitive transportation solutions that address the social costs of transportation (impacts of transportation activities on highway safety, highway system maintenance and retrofitting, congestion, GHG emissions, etc.) that are increasingly a cause for concern among citizens, governments, and companies interested in sustainable development.
- ✧ Most of the urban and industrial fabric of Quebec is served by a seaway with a number of underused infrastructures that are meant to provide a connection between this "marine highway" and the road and rail systems.
- ✧ SSS creates new employment opportunities for Canadians working in any of the many shipping occupations.

## What is the game plan?

The *Roundtable's* plan of action is based on five priorities:

- 1) Monitoring    2) Research    3) Networking    4) Communication    5) Promotion**

The *Roundtable* is already listed on its partners' Internet sites and has organized its first workshop as part of the St. Lawrence Shipoperators' Annual General Meeting on January 28, 2005. The *Roundtable* establishes links with the SSS network in Quebec, the rest of Canada, the U.S. and Europe.



The *Roundtable* meets with experts to learn their views on SSS development. It participates in events and is involved with the media; there are increasing opportunities to do so, as the advantages of SSS become better known.

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## Are you aware of SSS services in Quebec?

Here is the latest:

- ✦ Since April 2005, Groupe Océan has been shipping chips produced on the North Shore by barge to the plants of Kruger, a paper manufacturer in Trois Rivières.
- ✦ Also since April 2005, McKeil Marine (tugs and barges in Montreal), in collaboration with Logistec Arrimage, has been transporting by barge and vessel some of the continental shipments of Aluminerie Alouette from Sept Îles to Trois Rivières and Toledo, Ohio.
- ✦ Dismar, an Upper Lakes Group company, has started transporting cargo by covered Mississippi barges between the Seaway and the St. Lawrence Estuary (including its tributaries). Each barge has a capacity of 1,750 metric tonnes and can operate individually or in a convoy with specially-equipped tugs.

There are many varied SSS services in Quebec, especially if you consider the nearly 60 services offered by public and private ferries that service the region. For more information on SSS, please contact a member of the *Roundtable*.

## Who are the members of the *Roundtable*?

<p><b>Nicole Trépanier</b> Executive Director, St. Lawrence Shipoperators <i>Roundtable Chair</i></p>	
<p><b>Claire Poulin</b> Director, Marine Transport and St. Lawrence River Enhancement Secretariat Transport Quebec</p>	<p><b>Michel Dignard</b> Transport Analyst, Marine Transport and St. Lawrence River Enhancement Secretariat, Transport Quebec, <i>Roundtable Secretary</i></p>
<p><b>Marc Fortin</b> Director, Seaway and Domestic Ship Policy, Transport Canada</p>	<p><b>Janin Huard</b> Policy Analyst, Seaway and Domestic Shipping Policy, Transport Canada</p>
<p><b>Claude Mailloux</b> Executive Director, Human Resources Sectorial Committee of the Maritime Industry</p>	<p><b>Aldert van Nieuwkoop</b> Director, Market Development, St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation</p>

