



Port of Baltimore goes green

3/7/11, The Baltimore Sun, Lorraine Mirabella

The port of Baltimore, long a source of pollution from ships, trucks and heavy equipment, is starting to clean up. Port officials have installed screens in storm drains to keep pollutants out of the Chesapeake Bay, removed underground fuel tanks and used a federal grant to help businesses install clean diesel technology in 142 pieces of equipment. Tugboats with McAllister Towing, one of the port's main tug companies, run on slower speeds to burn less fuel. Ports America Chesapeake, which operates Seagirt Marine Terminal for the state, recycles its used oil, batteries and scrap metal, and has installed new diesel engines in more than half of the 122 yard trucks to reduce emissions. And Wallenius Wilhelmsen Logistics, or WWL, a Scandinavian line that ships and processes automobiles and farm equipment at Dundalk Marine Terminal, is taking steps to eventually operate zero-emissions marine terminals in Baltimore and elsewhere. Much of the greening of the port is driven by increasingly stringent environmental regulations, but port operators also recognize that what's good for the environment is also good for business.

Trucking jobs again on the rise

3/8/11, Baltimore Business Journal, Joanna Sullivan

Though trucking might not be the glamorous profession portrayed in that era, it's one of the faster growing fields after taking a beating at the low point of the recession. The industry's employment peaked in January 2007, 11 months before the recession officially began. Since then, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics showed employment within the trucking industry declined for 35 months, resulting in the loss of 208,000 jobs, or 14.3 percent of employment. But trucking jobs are on the rise as companies see more demand for their products nationwide. The latest U.S. labor statistics show that 11,200 jobs came from for-hire trucking companies in February alone. Since March 2010 — when trucking jobs hit bottom — companies have added 39,000 jobs, according to BLS estimates.

Rustbelt recovery - Against all the odds, American factories are coming back to life. Thank the rest of the world for that

3/10/11, The Economist, Staff Writer

For the first time in many years, American manufacturing is doing better than the rest of the economy. Manufacturing output tumbled 15% over the course of the recession, from December 2007 to the end of June 2009. Since then it has recovered two-thirds of that drop; production is now just 5% below its peak level. Factory employment has been slower to recover than output, since productivity has risen. Nonetheless, that too is growing. In February factory payrolls rose by 33,000 from January. In the past year manufacturing employment has gone up by 189,000, or 1.6%, the biggest gain since the late 1990s. Total employment rose just 1% in that period. Unemployment has fallen more sharply than the national average in Illinois, Ohio and Michigan, which are relatively dependent on manufacturing. Beyond this cyclical bounce-back, though, a structural shift may also be under way. Makers of floorings, furniture and glass, all of which go into houses, were especially hard hit and have yet to start hiring again. But those that make things for businesses or customers overseas—computers, machinery, electronic equipment, heavy-duty trucks—are thriving. Cisco Systems and Intel Corporation notched up record sales last year. Caterpillar and John Deere, which makes diggers, bulldozers and farm equipment, saw sales leap.

Havre de Grace warehouse sells for \$26.4M

3/14/11, Baltimore Business Journal, Ryan Sharrow

A 613,000-square-foot distribution center in Havre de Grace has sold for \$26.4 million, a 35 percent increase over the last time the property changed hands in 2009. The property is fully leased to Sun Products Corp. through February 2016.

Motion Industries Takes 60,000 SF in Rossville

3/23/11, CityBizList

Motion Industries, Inc. has signed a lease for 60,000 square feet at 8840 Kelso Drive, a 77,800 square foot building located in Rossville. Riorda said the building's positioning near major interstates, its large footplate and good loading made it a fit for Motion Industries. The single-story masonry construction building features 24' clear ceiling heights and is close to I-695, I-95 and Route 40.