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CRUISEPHILLY PROGRAM RECEIVES RAVE REVIEWS FROM 2004 CRUISE PASSENGERS

Survey Reveals Most Passengers Would Recommend a Cruise from Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, March 9, 2005 – The Port of Philadelphia and Camden (PPC), a department of the Delaware River Port Authority, received rave reviews for its 2004 season. In a random survey of 2,063 cruise passengers who embarked from Philadelphia during the 2004 season (out of a total 60,000 who passed through the terminal), 97 percent said they would recommend a cruise from Philadelphia to a friend and nearly half plan to take another cruise in the next year.

Philadelphia, which will host 32 cruises in 2005, up from 22 in 2004 and 17 in 2003, also received high marks for the location of and service at the cruise terminal. The overall satisfaction bodes well for the port's future growth. For the 2005 season, Celebrity Cruises is increasing the number of its Bermuda sailings from Philadelphia, and Royal Caribbean Cruise Line (RCCL) is adding a Canada-New England itinerary on its newly renovated Enchantment of the Seas. The additional commitment from the cruise lines and high satisfaction of passengers embarking from the terminal also presents opportunities for Philadelphia as a destination. Some additional findings of those surveyed:

The majority of cruise passengers chose Philadelphia because it is close to where they live: 75% reside in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, 16% in other Mid-Atlantic states and 9% in the South, Midwest and West.

Those who have cruised before, cruise often. In the last two years, 82.7% took at least one cruise; 51% took approximately two cruises and 20% took nearly 5 cruises.

The majority of surveyed passengers (80%) rated their overall experience at the Cruise Terminal as excellent to good. Additionally, they gave top marks to the terminal location (98%), staff (97%), building (54%) and parking facilities (88%).

Exclusive of the cost of a cruise, of those cruisers who spent time before or after their voyage, the

average cruise party spent \$226 for lodging, food, clothing, transit, etc. Based on an average of 2.4 people, passengers contributed \$16 million in business revenue and \$4.5 million in employment income.

Approximately 1,624 cruise passengers stayed overnight in a hotel.

More than 60,000 passengers passed through the terminal in 2004 and more than 90,000 are expected in 2005.

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“The overwhelming response from passengers about the terminal and their willingness to cruise again and to recommend cruising from Philadelphia says a lot about our program,” said John J. Matheussen, CEO of the Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA).

“In just three years we’ve been able to firmly cement our position as a viable cruise destination. The trend toward cruising closer to home has also benefited us since a quarter of the U.S. population lives within a 500-mile radius of Philadelphia,” said Melissa Grimm, director of the Port of Philadelphia and Camden, a department of the Delaware River Port Authority.

The Port of Philadelphia and Camden collected 2,063 surveys randomly from the passengers who disembarked from a cruise (6.8%) at the Philadelphia Cruise Terminal at Pier 1 from April 4-August 28, 2004.

For more information about cruising from Philadelphia, visit [HYPERLINK "http://www.cruisephilly.com"](http://www.cruisephilly.com) www.cruisephilly.com or call (856) 968-2052. For more information about travel to Philadelphia, call the new Independence Visitor Center, located in Independence National Historical Park, at (800) 537-7676, or visit [HYPERLINK "http://www.gophila.com"](http://www.gophila.com) www.gophila.com.

The Philadelphia Cruise Terminal at Pier 1 is operated by The Port of Philadelphia and Camden, a department of the Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA). DRPA owns and operates the Benjamin Franklin, Walt Whitman, Commodore Barry and Betsy Ross bridges, the PATCO High Speed Line and the AmeriPort Intermodal Rail Center and the RiverLink Ferry System.

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