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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **WALLENIUS WILHELMSSEN MAKES FIRST CALL TO PORT FREEPORT**

**FREEPORT, TX (June 3, 2020)** – Port Freeport is pleased to announce that Wallenius Wilhelmsen, a global shipping and logistic solutions provider, recently made its initial port call to Port Freeport. This service from Asia to the Gulf Coast will continue to bring automobiles on Wallenius Wilhelmsen ocean vessels into Freeport.

“We were very proud to welcome Wallenius Wilhelmsen to Port Freeport and look forward to working together to make the partnership a success,” said Phyllis Saathoff, Port Freeport Executive Director and CEO. “The new service from Wallenius Wilhelmsen will add to the already existing multiple monthly calls from Roll-on/Roll-off vessels creating additional economic opportunity for our region.”

Wallenius Wilhelmsen’s versatile fleet of Roll-on/Roll-off vessels is capable of carrying an assortment of products to best serve their customer’s needs.

“Wallenius Wilhelmsen’s *Bess* made its first call to Freeport on Tuesday, May 26th. The call saw 859 new cars discharged to Port Freeport,” stated Damien Bressler, Port and Cargo Operations Manager for Wallenius. “We would like to thank Port Freeport, Ports America and the International Longshoremen’s Association for a successful first voyage to Freeport.”

Headquartered in Oslo, Norway, Wallenius Wilhelmsen is a market leader in Roll-on/Roll-off shipping and vehicle logistics, managing the distribution of cars, trucks, rolling equipment and breakbulk cargoes. Wallenius operates 130 vessels servicing 15 trade routes to six continents, together with a global inland distribution network, 120 processing centers, and 11 marine terminals.

“The addition of Wallenius Wilhelmsen to Port Freeport expands our capabilities for global commerce while providing more well-paying jobs and additional economic prosperity,” said Shane Pirtle, Chairman of the Port Commission.

Port Freeport is a leading port in the export of crude oil and natural gas liquids and is ranked 10th in chemicals, 19<sup>th</sup> in total tonnage, and 26th in containers. A 2019 Economic Impact Study by Texas A&M Transportation Institution revealed that nationally the Freeport Harbor Channel generates 279,780 jobs and has a total economic output of \$149 billion. The Freeport Harbor Channel serves BASF, Chiquita Fresh N.A., CMA CGM, Dole Fresh Fruit, The Dow Chemical Company, Freeport LNG, Glovis, Grimaldi Lines, Hoegh Autoliners, Horizon Auto Logistics, Liberty Global Logistics, Mammoet, Phillips 66, Riviana Foods, Inc., Sallalum Lines, Seaway Crude Pipeline Company, Tenaris, and Vulcan Materials Company.

Port Freeport is committed to keeping the local community informed of our operation and results. If you have questions or comments about this article, please email or call Marilyn Miller, Public Affairs Assistance.

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**PHOTO CUTLINE:** Wallenius Wilhelmsen makes first call to Port Freeport