ARTICLE 4: GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT

The geographic scope of this Agreement is the trade between ports on the U.S. Gulf Coast, the U.S. East Coast, and the U.S. West Coast on the one hand and ports in Japan on the other hand (the “Trade”).

ARTICLE 5: OVERVIEW OF AGREEMENT AUTHORITY

5.1 Under this Agreement, the Parties may each charter space on vessels owned or chartered by the Parties, on such terms and conditions as the Parties may agree. To facilitate efficient operations under this Agreement, the Parties may discuss and agree upon: the capacity and features of the vessels; the schedule and selection of ports of loading and discharge; space requirements and the availability of space on vessels owned or chartered by the Parties; the place and timing of the provisions of space; procedures for booking space, for documentation, for special cargo handling instructions or requirements; and for any other administrative matters relating to chartering and operations under this Agreement.

5.2 Compensation for any space chartered pursuant to this Agreement shall be upon such terms and at such hire as the Parties may from time to time agree. Billing and payment terms and conditions shall also be as agreed between the Parties from time to time.

5.3 The Parties are authorized to discuss and agree upon arrangements for the use of terminals in connection with the chartering of space hereunder, including entering into exclusive, preferential, or cooperative working arrangements with marine terminal operators and any person relating to marine terminal, stevedoring or other shoreside services. Nothing herein, however, shall authorize the Parties jointly to operate a marine terminal in the United States. The Parties may discuss and agree upon the terminal(s) to be called by the vessels operated hereunder as well as the stevedore(s) that will service such vessels, and/or the volume of cargo to be handled by such terminals or stevedores. In furtherance of the foregoing, the Parties are authorized to discuss, exchange information, and/or coordinate negotiations with marine terminal operators or stevedores relating to operational matters such as port schedules and berthing windows; availability of port facilities, equipment and services; contract duration; adequacy of throughput; and the procedures of the interchange of operational data in a legally compliant manner. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Parties shall have no authority to jointly contract with terminals or stevedores under this Agreement.

5.4 The Parties may also discuss and agree upon such general administrative matters and other terms and conditions as the Parties may mutually agree upon from time to time.
conditions concerning the implementation of this Agreement as may be necessary or convenient from time to time including but not limited to forecasting, stowage planning, record-keeping, responsibility for loss or damage, insurance, liabilities, claims, indemnification, consequences for delays and/or other failure to perform, the terms of their respective bills of lading, force majeure, and treatment of hazardous and dangerous cargoes.

5.5 Pursuant to 46 CFR § 535.408, any further agreement or cooperation beyond what is authorized herein cannot go into effect unless filed and effective under the Shipping Act of 1984, as amended.