

- **MEDIA ADVISORY -**Wednesday, December 2, 2020

Port of Corpus Christi's Foreign Trade Zone Best in Nation for Combined Economic Impact

Corpus Christi, TX, USA – The Port of Corpus Christi's Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) has been named the best in the nation by Site Selection Magazine, a recognition of the efforts by the Port and its customers to promote economic development and job growth in the Texas Coastal Bend region.

The Port of Corpus Christi's FTZ 122 encompasses seven counties — Nueces, San Patricio, Aransas, Refugio, Bee, Jim Wells and Kleberg — in the South Texas Coastal Bend, with the Port Authority designated as its administrator. Foreign Trade Zones are a highly beneficial fiscal tool which can defer or reduce duty payments, streamline supply chain costs and improve a company's competitive position in domestic and foreign markets. In the Coastal Bend, companies who have benefitted from FTZ status over the past few years include Gulf Coast Growth Ventures (an Exxon/SABIC joint venture) and voestalpine Texas in San Patricio County, as well as Tex-Isle's energy tubular facility in Robstown.

"The ranking from Site Selection Magazine is an affirmation of the economic development activities by the Port of Corpus Christi over the past five years and the large, job-creating investments by our customers in our region," said **Sean Strawbridge, Chief Executive Officer for the Port of Corpus Christi**. "Reaching this milestone is a testament to the growing investability in our region and the great working relationships we have cultivated with our customers and the surrounding communities."

Site Selection Magazine used information from the 80th Annual Report of the Foreign-Trade Zones Board which was submitted to the U.S. Congress — published in November 2019 — to determine its rankings. The Port of Corpus Christi topped the list of 257 Foreign Trade Zones in the United States for combined economic impact and was also the top Texas port listed in the rankings, ahead of the Port of Houston and Texas City Foreign-Trade Zone Corporation.

"The Port of Corpus Christi is an economic engine for not just the Coastal Bend, but the entire State of Texas," said **Charles W. Zahn, Port of Corpus Christi Commission Chairman.** "We are grateful to the companies who have made the decision to invest their dollars into our communities, bringing new jobs and opportunities to the area, over the past few years."

About Port Corpus Christi

As a leader in U.S. Crude Oil export ports and a major economic engine of Texas and the nation, Port Corpus Christi is the 3rd largest port in the United States in total revenue tonnage. Strategically located on the western Gulf of Mexico with a 36-mile, soon to be 54-foot (MLLW) deep channel, Port Corpus Christi is a major gateway to international and domestic maritime commerce. The Port has excellent railroad and highway network connectivity via three North American Class-1 railroads and two major interstate highways. With an outstanding staff overseen by its seven-member commission, Port Corpus Christi is "Moving America's Energy." <u>www.portofcc.com</u>

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