

## Calcium Carbonate Distributor Chooses Delaware

### *First Shipment of Aragonite Product Arrives at the Port of Wilmington*

**WILMINGTON, Del.** (April 16, 2012) – Recently, Governor Jack Markell and representatives from the [Delaware Economic Development Office](#) and the [Port of Wilmington](#), Delaware welcomed [CaCO<sub>3</sub> Aragonite Products, Inc.](#) (CaCO<sub>3</sub> Aragonite) and company CEO, Erik Davison to Delaware. The company's commitment to begin operations in Delaware was marked on March 23 by the arrival of CaCO<sub>3</sub> Aragonite's first oolitic aragonite shipment at the Port of Wilmington onboard *m/v Atlantic Express*.

"We are proud to welcome CaCO<sub>3</sub> Aragonite to Delaware," said Governor Jack Markell. "When planning its expansion strategy, the company had choices on where to expand and it chose Delaware. I am pleased that they recognized the value of Delaware's uniquely friendly business environment and strategic location."

CaCO<sub>3</sub> Aragonite founders recognize the current and future demand for a calcium carbonate product that is pure, bio-reactive, and sustainable. As a result, the company develops products that are practical, economical and whose application sustains and enhances the environment.

"Every day we work to attract new businesses and grow existing companies such as CaCO<sub>3</sub> Aragonite," said Alan Levin, Director of Delaware Economic Development Office and Chairman of the DSPC. "I congratulate the company on their expansion and look forward to its future success."

CaCO<sub>3</sub> Aragonite markets, sells and distributes oolitic aragonite from the Bahamas to commercial customers in North and South America. The material is dredged from the shallow, warm waters off the east coast of Florida. The product is able to replace some petroleum-based products in the filler markets, and carries a greener footprint than traditionally mined limestone products.

"We are excited about the arrival of CaCO<sub>3</sub> Aragonite's business at the Port of Wilmington and thank them for selecting Delaware as its mid-Atlantic distribution gateway," said Gene Bailey, executive director of the Diamond State Port Corporation. "Dry bulk commodities such as aragonite have been an important cargo mainstay for our port since its inception in 1923. We look forward to working together with Erik Davison and his team and to helping them successfully launch their business in Delaware," he added.

"Bringing our unique product ashore in Delaware and building a processing facility followed a rigorous and competitive due-diligence process," said Erik Davison, CEO. "We are proud and excited to land product in the First State, and the activities last week constitute a significant milestone in our company's growth strategy. We thank our local partners, ICS, and our supplier partners, Ocean Cay Ltd, for collaborating with us on these endeavors, and appreciate the leadership exhibited by Governor Markell."

CaCO<sub>3</sub> Aragonite Products provides oolitic aragonite to commercial and retail customers, with applications in:

- agriculture for liming, fertilization, and animal feed
- coal-fired plants, using material as a scrubbing agent to significantly reduce SO<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>
- glass, plastics, pharma and food, using material as a filler
- filtration of water supply

To learn more about CaCO<sub>3</sub> Aragonite Products, Inc. visit [www.CaCO3Aragonite.com](http://www.CaCO3Aragonite.com)

#### **About the Delaware Economic Development Office**

The Delaware Economic Development Office is an executive state agency responsible for attracting new investors and businesses to the state, promoting the expansion of existing industry, assisting small and minority-owned businesses, promoting and developing tourism and creating new and improved employment opportunities for all citizens of the State. Visit [dedo.delaware.gov](http://dedo.delaware.gov). Follow DEDO on Facebook and Twitter @DEDOgov.

#### **About the Port of Wilmington, Delaware**

Founded in 1923, the Port of Wilmington is a full service mid-Atlantic seaport at the confluence of the Christina and Delaware rivers strategically located and serving over 200 million North American consumers by overnight truck and rail delivery. The Port is the nation's leading gateway for imported perishable cargo and operates the largest on-dock cold storage complex in North America. A busy mid-Atlantic seaport for dry bulk imports and exports, Wilmington handled nearly 1.5 million tons of dry bulk material in 2011. An economic engine for the State of Delaware and the region, it is responsible for 4,300 good paying local jobs, \$365 million in annual business revenue, and more than \$31 million in annual state and local taxes. The Port is owned and operated by the Diamond State Port Corporation, a corporation of the State of Delaware.

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