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# Community Report

A NEWS UPDATE FROM THE



Port of Vancouver USA

NOVEMBER 2020



Julianna Marler  
CEO

## A Season of Gratitude

I hear from most everyone I encounter that they will be glad when the year 2020 is behind us. When going through difficult times it's hard to see the good that exists amid our troubles. I've been mindful of this as we approach the Thanksgiving holiday. There is so much we at the Port of Vancouver can be thankful for.

The port is weathering the COVID-19 storm and has performed remarkably well due to our Business Continuity Plan, which put us in an excellent position to pivot to work remotely—while keeping business moving forward. The commercial and economic development teams are collaborating with our 50+ port tenants to help them navigate these uncertain times.

I have been so impressed with our ILWU longshore workers, and the many other essential workers who keep the trucks rolling, the trains moving and the ships loading and unloading. While some port staff are working remotely, our central office, security, maintenance, rail crews and terminal operations staff members continue to report for work each day to keep the port open, operating safely and smoothly.

It is with sincere gratitude that I thank our port family—and our community at large—for all your support during this challenging year. There are many exciting projects and milestones taking shape for 2021. Until then, I wish you and your family health and happiness in the coming holiday season.



*ILWU Local 4 workers carefully place wind turbine blade on specialized trailer for transport*

## Key to 2020 Success is Cargo Diversity

Although many companies, communities and organizations have been seriously impacted by the pandemic, the Port of Vancouver USA has kept its doors open and has been working hard to continue to provide economic stability for the local community. In fact, the port has had its most successful year in its 108-year history. The port has had record numbers of commodities crossing the docks, including 64,000 automobiles, over 800 wind components with 35 full wind turbine generators and 2.4 million metric tons of wheat. All of this was accomplished with employees who are local residents, many of them highly skilled members of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU).

Shipments into and out of the port bring strong economic activity to the community. The port provides good family wage jobs, contracting opportunities for local businesses and fees

collected from vessels are reinvested into the port, keeping local taxes to a minimum. The fiscal benefits continue with direct, indirect and induced economic activity from the port which is felt throughout the local community at grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants, childcare centers and other local businesses.

What is the secret sauce to the port's success? According to Alex Strogon, Chief Commercial Officer, "We have worked hard to diversify our cargoes so that we are not reliant on any one industry. By diversifying these commodities, we are able to have a continuous flow of business, whether it's grain, automobiles, metals or energy infrastructure components, even during times of economic disruption."

"We are always striving to bring economic stability to our local community," said Julianna Marler, CEO. "It is the support of our local community that makes all the difference."



Wapato farm fields that will be restored to fish, wetland and oak habitat

## Not Your Ordinary Bank

We believe that environmental stewardship and economic development can co-exist, and as part of our community, we are committed to doing our part. Earlier this summer, the port’s board of commissioners [approved the purchase of environmental mitigation credits](#) from the Wapato Valley Mitigation and Conservation Bank (Wapato Bank) in anticipation of several upcoming projects.

Mitigation banking is a system of exchange with credits and debits that help ensure development impacts are offset by restoration, enhancement or preservation of an offsite, but nearby, area with similar ecological features. Now, in addition to minimizing

or avoiding impacts during future project design, we can use Wapato Bank credits to help balance any unavoidable impacts through this system of mitigation banking.

The port is thrilled to be working with Wapato Bank as well as being the first entity within the Wapato Bank service area to create an agreement like this. This nearly 900-acre property in Ridgefield is at the confluence of the Lewis and Columbia Rivers. Restoration efforts of Wapato Bank include “unbuilding” which involves removing man-made infrastructure and restoring the property’s natural ecosystem, which will increase the growth of natural habitat, improve the

quality of the environment and encourage the growth of diverse and complex species.

“The funding from these credit sales will support the restoration construction and perpetual maintenance of the biodiverse floodplain habitats found at Wapato Valley,” said Kelley Jorgensen, President of Conservation with the Wapato Valley Mitigation and Conservation Bank. “We are grateful to the Port of Vancouver for its commitment to and support of our conservation efforts.”

For more information about the Wapato Valley Mitigation and Conservation Bank, visit <https://www.wapato-valley.com>.

## Community Connections

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented challenges to organizations like the port as they try to engage with community members. The port is utilizing many virtual tools in order to keep the community engaged. Staff has been attending neighborhood association meetings that have migrated to platforms like Zoom to provide port updates on programs and initiatives. For example, when the port received 76-meter wind blades this summer, updates were provided at several meetings to make neighbors aware that the blades and other components would be transported by truck through Vancouver to their ultimate destination in Canada.

Another result of the pandemic was the cancellation of our popular public tours and

lectures this spring and summer. While we couldn’t take attendees around the port by bus, we are in the process of recording a port overview similar to the one given at the beginning of each tour. Pre-recording the overview allows us to include several key port staff who will help narrate the show. Plans include a special “viewing” for those who signed up for 2020 tours and then the program will be available on several platforms for all to view.

Additionally, port commission meetings are taking place live via Zoom and include opportunities for live public comment. Information about board meetings is available on the port’s website under the [“Commission”](#) tab. The port can also make a speaker available for your organization’s



(Left to right) - John Spencer (Port of Camas-Washougal) and Julie Rawls and Eric LaBrant (Port of Vancouver) take in the opening of the Currents of Progress exhibit at the Clark County Historical Museum.

online meeting. To arrange a speaker, contact Julie Rawls, Community Relations Manager, at [jrawls@portvanusa.com](mailto:jrawls@portvanusa.com).

The port continues to learn and adapt to changes brought about by the pandemic. We look forward to connecting with you in person very soon.



# POV Goes to New Lengths to Support Wind Energy Industry

Wind components have made a huge impact at the port making 2020 a record year. The port is projected to handle 3,000 components, more than any other West Coast port this year. With more than 18 years of experience handling wind components, we have a deep understanding of handling procedures and other manufacturer-specific requirements, which allows us to efficiently and safely transport various component types, sizes and designs.

“Our customers know we can handle this large cargo with our heavy lift cranes, acres of laydown space, highly-skilled workforce and dedication to renewable energy,” said Alex Stroger, Chief Commercial Officer.

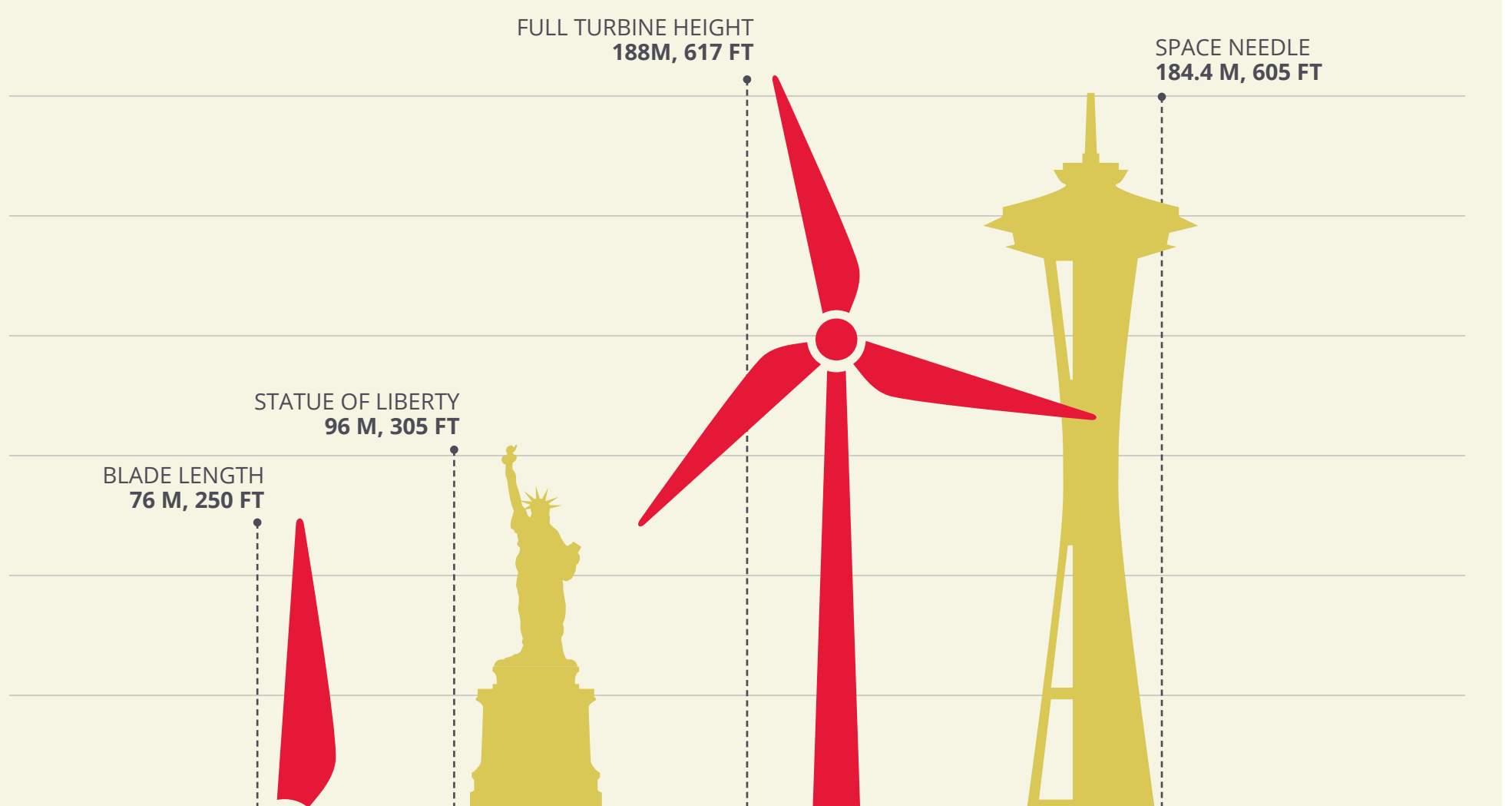
In June, the longest wind turbine blades ever to enter the West Coast of the U.S. to-date [came through the port](#). Close to 250 feet in length, the blades are nearly as tall as the Statue of Liberty! The delivery was a joint effort between the turbine manufacturer Goldwind Americas and the wind project owner Potentia Renewables.

Before these wind components are assembled and able to generate energy for thousands of homes, they create numerous jobs along the journey to their final destination. From jobs created



by our project partners at Goldwind and Potentia; to ILWU Locals 4, 40 and 92; ship agents; seafarers; stevedores; tug and barge operators; river and bar pilots; the trucking industry; and port terminal operations, security and commercial teams—a project of this magnitude generates jobs directly and indirectly.

2021 is looking to be another busy year for wind energy and we look forward to providing economic benefit for our local and regional community.

An aerial photograph of a port terminal with a red overlay containing text. The overlay is a solid red rectangle with white text. The background shows a wide river, a large industrial area with many buildings, and a green area with a large pond. The sky is blue with some clouds.

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES AT THE PORT

Calling all local companies! We want to work with you! Check out the Port of Vancouver USA's online bid system, ProcureWare, where you can register to be on our vendor list for FREE! From IT products and services, to consulting and construction, choose your area of expertise and receive automatic e-mail notifications so you never miss a business opportunity.

Find all the information at:  
<https://portvanusa.procureware.com/home>

# Tenant Spotlight: CADET-Glen Dimplex

Established in 1957 and a port tenant for nearly 15 years, [CADET Manufacturing](#) has been a cornerstone Vancouver business, providing jobs and economic growth and we're excited to share that they'll be staying with us for a few more years!

CADET's product line includes wall, baseboard and specialty heaters all with the goal of inviting warmth, design and comfort into homes. After years of continued success, CADET joined the [Glen Dimplex](#) family of brands in 2016. Headquartered in Dublin, Ireland, Glen Dimplex began in a similar way as CADET. Both companies are family-based businesses starting with only a handful of employees and both continue to be family run businesses today.

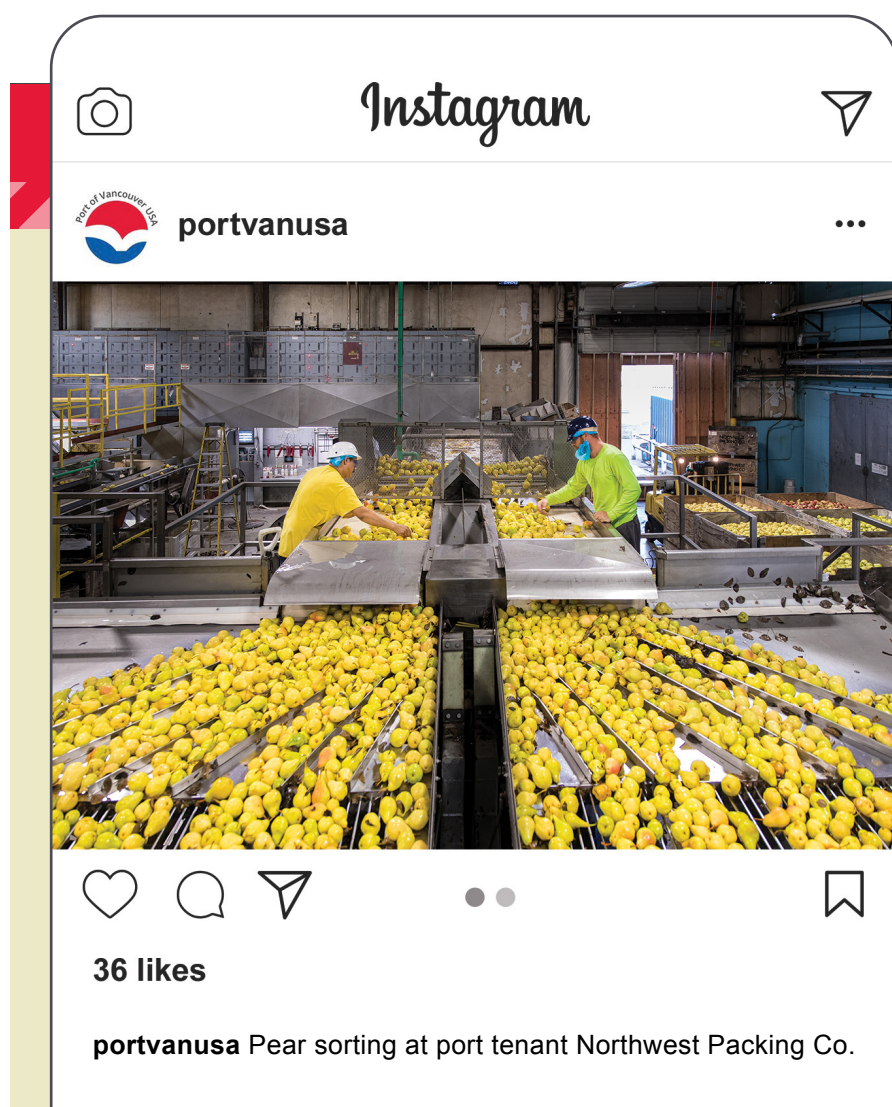
In 2018 Dimplex North America Limited and CADET officially united to create one organization, called [Glen Dimplex Americas](#), that operates in North, Central and South America. With this merge comes extended product lines in the residential and commercial comfort categories, with Dimplex offering home furnishings such as mantels, media consoles and both gas and electric fireplaces.

This past September, Glen Dimplex Americas extended their lease for the CADET Vancouver location, an additional five years. The lease covers nearly 79,800 square feet of warehouse and manufacturing space, including over 13,000 square feet of office space.

"CADET has grown so much over the years and we look forward to continuing our relationship with Glen Dimplex," said port commercial and industrial sales manager Chrissy Lyons. "Providing opportunities for our tenants to grow and succeed is what we strive for at the port."

"Glen Dimplex Americas is proud to provide employment for local residents as we continue to create economic opportunity here in Vancouver and support other local businesses," said Rod Anderson, Chief Operations Officer at Glen Dimplex Americas.

Keeping these jobs and adding additional opportunities in Vancouver is pivotal and we're thrilled that CADET will be staying on as a port tenant for years to come.



## Follow us on Instagram!

Follow [@portvanusa](#) for stunning photos and fun facts about trains, grains and cranes and all the great work we do here at the Port of Vancouver.


MAKE SURE TO FOLLOW US ON ALL OF OUR SOCIAL CHANNELS:



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