



## NEWS RELEASE

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### Port of Palm Beach Strengthens Partnership with Cement Company to Support Regional Construction Growth

**Riviera Beach, Fla.**– To meet the region’s growing demand for construction materials, the Port of Palm Beach is expanding its bulk cement operations through a new long-term contract with current Port tenant, Ozinga Cement, Inc.

Today, Port Director Michael Meekins met with Ozinga representatives to mark the signing of the new agreement. Ozinga Cement will take over the Port’s eastern silo parcel on January 1, 2029, or earlier depending on parcel availability. The new agreement is expected to generate approximately \$19.6 million in revenue over its initial 10-year term.

“This agreement reinforces our shared commitment to meeting regional infrastructure needs and strengthening the Port’s role as a critical gateway for construction materials that support South Florida’s development,” said Port of Palm Beach Board Chairman Blair Ciklin.

This expansion builds upon Ozinga’s successful operations, which began in 2023.



“Ozinga has proven to be a valued partner whose investment and operational performance have helped drive the rapid growth of our cement imports,” said Port Executive Director Michael Meekins. “This agreement is an instrumental part in transforming the Port from being primarily an export port, to becoming a more balanced import and export port. Combined with other agreements, the Port’s import activity is projected to grow from 20% today to 40% by 2031.



Cement imports at the Port of Palm Beach have grown by more than 650% over the past three years, from approximately 40,000 short tons to more than 300,000 short tons, making it one of the fastest-growing commodities handled at the Port.

“We’re pleased to continue our partnership with the Port of Palm Beach and expand our capacity and capability to meet the region’s growing needs,” said Herb Moeckel, vice president and general manager of Ozinga Cement. “This collaboration not only supports vital infrastructure projects but also reflects our shared commitment to strengthening local communities.”



Since beginning operations in 2023, Ozinga has received 14 cement shipments totaling more than 385,000 short tons, generating over \$2.2 million in revenue for the Port.

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### **About Port of Palm Beach**

Located in Riviera Beach, the Port of Palm Beach is a full-service, diversified port, offering cruise and cargo services to more than 30 onsite tenants and users. At 165 acres, the Port's efficiency is unparalleled, processing more than \$14 billion in commodities, 2.8 million tons of cargo, and 383,000 cruise passengers annually. As one of the largest employers in Palm Beach County, the Port of Palm Beach and its tenants employ more than 3,800 people. Through the contribution of more than \$185 million in business revenue and \$17.5 million in tenant-contributed state and local annual tax revenue, the Port of Palm Beach is a large economic engine in South Florida. The Port of Palm Beach District has not levied property taxes since 1975. For more information, visit [www.portofpalmbeach.com](http://www.portofpalmbeach.com).

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