

Containers: Pioneers and Personal Recollections

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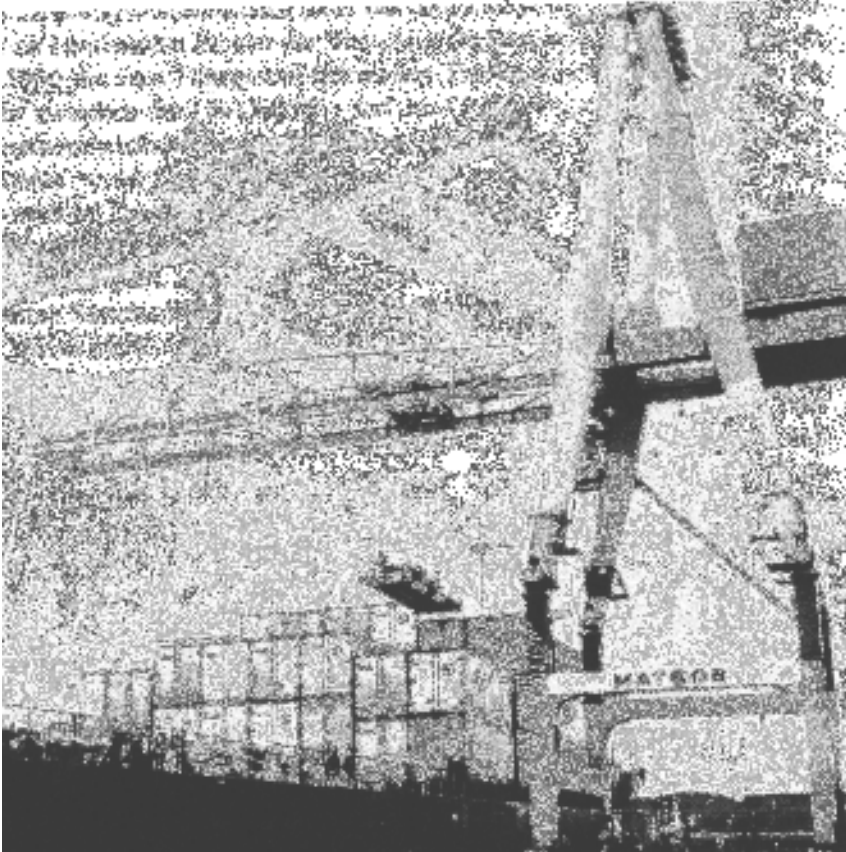
The Ideal-X, a T2 Tanker modified into the first container carrier in 1956 for Sea Land's Port Newark – Houston container service.



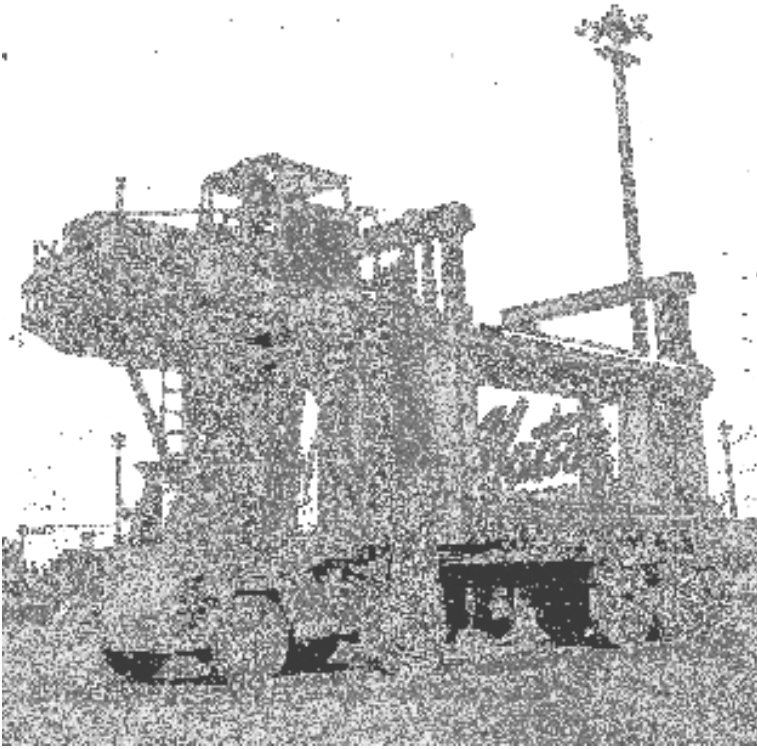
The Gateway City, modified into the first cellular container ship in 1957. Shipboard gantry cranes have been installed to handle the containers ship to shore



Sea-Land's Port Newark marshalling yard in about 1958, with one of the first cellular Container ships. The container ship had shipboard container gantry cranes. A dockside container crane was, however, available as well. The leading manufacturer of dockside container cranes was Pacific Coast Engineering Company (PACECO).



On the US West Coast, Matson Line was the first to employ cellular container ships in the early 1960's. PACECO container cranes were used to handle the containers ship to shore



To handle the containers throughout the marshalling yard, Van Carriers supplied by Clark Equipment. Terminal tractors and yard hustlers from Flexi Trucs were used



Another pioneer was American Export Isbrandtsen Line and CML/Container Marine Lines using cellular container ships with shipboard cranes. CML was the first container carrier using FRP-Plywood Containers. The first lessor of such equipment was ADCO (Advanced Container Corporation) on the USWC, run by Bob Reidelberger



CML's cell guides of their container ships in the early 60's



Sea-Land's early ship to shore container handling by ship-board container crane