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**Press Release  
May 15, 2003**

**Northwest Container Services  
Signs a Ten-Year Contract with the Port of Pasco**

**NWCS is now offering the multimodal rail and barge terminal services to Eastern Washington/Oregon in support of International trade.**

On May 5, 2003, Northwest Container Services became the only private company to operate a multimodal rail and barge terminal on the Columbia River, lending services to the Tri-Cities area in Eastern Washington and Oregon.

The ten-year contract with the Port of Pasco will entail the Portland based logistics company to relocate its existing Pasco rail operations into the Port's facilities. This will enable NWCS to broaden its client base to include Columbia River barge services thereby expanding its capabilities for moving international import and export products.

"The Port of Pasco is pleased to partner with Northwest Container Services on the operation of the Container Barge Terminal," stated Jim Toomey, Executive Director of the Port of Pasco. "NWCS can provide a variety, and flexibility of transportation solutions. These solutions will allow local and regional producers to access domestic and international markets efficiently and economically. The Port is about providing the best service available, and we believe this will be accomplished with NWCS," said Jim Toomey.

"We are really excited to begin working with the Port of Pasco. Being able to further our relationship with the river Port system and having the ability to offer our services to the shippers in Eastern Washington is really just a win win situation for NWCS," stated Gary Cardwell, CEO of NWCS. We will be able to offer farmers and manufacturers a broader range of transportation options from door to port in addition to expanding their available overseas destinations. We believe this helps broaden support for the producers in Eastern Washington and Oregon for expanding their operations, having the ability to produce more goods, and create much-needed jobs in that area. Everyone at NWCS is really excited about this contract!"