



For Immediate Release

May 14, 2025

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Groundbreaking at Port of Vancouver USA Signals Future as Key Global Outlet for Soda Ash

Port leaders, Solvay, Vancouver Bulk Terminal begin work to transform port facility into state-of-the-art gateway for key U.S.-sourced mineral

VANCOUVER, Wash. – On Tuesday at the Port of Vancouver USA, port leaders and partners broke ground on a project to construct a state-of-the-art terminal for soda ash.



The newly designed Terminal 2, Berth 7 port facility will have the capability to annually transload more than 3 million tons of soda ash. The project combines expertise and capabilities

of [Vancouver Bulk Terminal](#), a joint venture between Nautilus International Holding Corporation and Neltume Ports; the Port of Vancouver USA; and [Solvay](#) – a global leader in soda ash.

For more photos and videos of the event, [click here](#).

Soda ash is essential for a variety of purposes, including manufacturing glass and lithium-ion batteries critical to solar panels and electric vehicles. Natural soda ash coming to the port is also an essential ingredient for sodium bicarbonate, food, feed, pharmaceuticals, detergents and other products used every day.

The new facility is expected to begin operations in the second half of 2026.

“This port has been an economic engine for the region for 113 years, and a vital link in the global supply chain. Pursuing a diverse mix of commodities people need in their everyday lives is key to our continued stability,” said **Julianna Marler, CEO of the Port of Vancouver USA**.

“We are grateful to work with our project partners and put shovels in the ground to add soda ash to that mix, a building-block mineral critical for energy generation, construction, health care, food and more.

“We are incredibly excited to move full speed ahead on a project that will generate local jobs and economic benefits for years to come.”

The expanded capacity will support an expansion of Solvay’s Green River, Wyoming soda ash operations. The terminal will also add crucial export capacity to the North American soda ash industry, which is recognized as the world’s fastest-growing natural soda ash producing region.

“Global demand for Soda Ash from Green River, the world’s largest natural deposit, continues to grow,” said **Brian Kebart, Solvay EVP Global Supply Chain**. “Solvay’s Green River facility is a linchpin of our global supply network, and the Vancouver Terminal will secure Solvay’s ability to meet the growing needs of the industry for years to come. We appreciate the collaboration with the Port of Vancouver USA and VBT, two partners who are well aligned with Solvay’s desire to deliver sustainable, essential solutions globally.”

The redeveloped facility plans to feature expanded storage space, upgraded rail unit train access, and state-of-the-art cargo handling systems that will work together to create a seamless flow from rail to vessel to global markets.

“This groundbreaking marks more than just a construction milestone – it’s a commitment to building the future of sustainable trade in North America,” said **Brian Johnson, Chief Commercial Officer at Nautilus and Vancouver Bulk Terminal board member**. “With advanced cargo handling systems, expanded storage, and enhanced rail connectivity, this terminal will set a new standard for bulk export efficiency. We’re proud to invest in the long-term success of the Port of Vancouver USA and deliver economic opportunities that benefit the region and the global supply chain alike.”



For more photos and videos of the event, [click here](#).

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*The **Port of Vancouver USA** is one of the major ports on the Pacific Coast, and its competitive strengths include available land, versatile cargo handling capabilities, vast transportation networks, a skilled labor force and an exceptional level of service to its customers and community. For more information, please visit us at portvanusa.com.*

***Solvay**, a pioneering chemical company with a legacy rooted in founder Ernest Solvay's pivotal innovations in the soda ash process, is dedicated to delivering essential solutions globally through its workforce of around 9,000 employees. Since 1863, Solvay harnesses the power of chemistry to create innovative, sustainable solutions that answer the world's most essential needs such as purifying the air we breathe and the water we use, preserving our food supplies, protecting our health and well-being, creating eco-friendly clothing, making the tires of our cars more sustainable and cleaning and protecting our homes. Solvay's unwavering commitment drives the transition to a carbon-neutral future by 2050, underscoring its dedication to sustainability and a fair and just transition. As a world-leading company with €4.7 billion in underlying net sales in 2024, Solvay is listed on Euronext Brussels and Paris (SOLB). Learn more at www.solvay.com.*

***Solvay Soda Ash & Derivatives** is a global business division of Solvay. As a world leader in its markets, it provides a global, secured and sustainable supply of soda ash to its customers manufacturing glass for building, automotive, solar panels and packaging applications, as well as detergents and chemicals. It also develops solutions based on sodium bicarbonate for the health care, food, animal feed and*

flue gas cleaning markets. Solvay Soda Ash & Derivatives has 7 Soda Ash Manufacturing sites worldwide, more than 2,900 employees and serves 120 countries.

***Vancouver Bulk Terminal** was established in 2023 as a joint venture between Nautilus International Holding Corporation and Neltume Ports with the vision of establishing growth and environmental responsibility at the Port of Vancouver USA's Dry Bulk Export Dock. VBT is experienced in handling a broad range of heavy mineral bulk commodities and is transitioning to a specialized export facility for American soda ash. This facility upgrade represents a healthy commitment to and lasting investment in the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area of the Pacific Northwest, and specifically the port, helping it to grow the local economy. Learn more at <https://vbt-llc.com/>.*