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Dunavant Enterprises acquires Sea Land Express

Memphis Business Journal

Date: Monday, March 7, 2011, 9:30am CST

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Dunavant Transportation Group, a subsidiary of [Dunavant Enterprises Inc.](#), has acquired Sea Lane Express, a transportation company specializing in regional trucking and intermodal drayage operations.

The Memphis-based private company would not disclose the purchase amount.

Sea Lane Express has terminal operations in intermodal and port cities including Atlanta and Savannah, Ga.; Norfolk, Va.; Charleston, S.C.; Charlotte and Wilmington, N.C.; and Nashville, Tenn. The company also has administrative offices in Great Neck, N.Y.

This move is the second acquisition for Dunavant in recent months. The company purchased a majority interest in Houston-based Trans Gulf Transportation in December 2010.

"As we continue to expand and grow our asset-light trucking operation to major intermodal and seaport locations, we felt it was essential to have a presence in the Southeast and along the East Coast," **William B. Dunavant III**, president and CEO of Dunavant Enterprises, said. "Sea Lane Express provides us with that opportunity and is well-known for developing strong relationships with ocean carriers and shippers. The Sea Lane and Trans Gulf acquisitions will position us to take advantage of the Panama Canal expansion in 2014, as well as to expand our range of services for our customers."

The acquisition, which was finalized on Feb. 28, will add 175 drivers as owner-operators to support regional trucking and drayage operations in the Southeast and along the East Coast.

"We are looking forward to joining the Dunavant logistics family," **Guy Mazarin**, president of Sea Lane Express, said. "Strategically, this is a great chance to move ahead and participate in Dunavant's vision for providing a sustainable global logistics platform for our clients. They have been a major player in global logistics for decades, and we are excited about this next chapter of the company."

Dunavant Transportation Group has started integrating Sea Lane Express. It helps that both companies have been running their transportation operations using the same intermodal trucking software, Compcare Services' VIntermodal Manager.

Dunavant Enterprises began operations more than 50 years ago and became one of the largest cotton merchants in the world.

In 2010, [Dunavant sold its global cotton operations and retained its logistics division](#) as the primary focus of the company while retaining its real estate and investment divisions.