



**KIRBY CORPORATION**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**KIRBY CORPORATION TO PRESENT AT  
JEFFERIES 2012 GLOBAL SHIPPING CONFERENCE**

**Houston, Texas (August 31, 2012)** -- Kirby Corporation ("Kirby") (NYSE:KEX) announced today that Joe Pyne, Kirby's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and David Grzebinski, Kirby's Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, will present at the Jefferies 2012 Global Shipping Conference on Wednesday, September 5, 2012, at 1:00 p.m. eastern time. The Jefferies conference is being held in New York.

A live audio webcast of the presentation will be available to the public and a replay will be available after the presentation by visiting Kirby's website at <http://www.kirbycorp.com>. A copy of the material prepared by Kirby for the presentation will be available at 8:00 a.m. eastern time on September 5, 2012 on Kirby's website. A replay of the presentation will be available through October 5, 2012 on Kirby's website.

Kirby Corporation, based in Houston, Texas, is the nation's largest domestic tank barge operator, transporting bulk liquid products throughout the Mississippi River System, the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, coastwise along all three United States coasts and in Alaska and Hawaii. Kirby transports petrochemicals, black oil products, refined petroleum products and agricultural chemicals by tank barge. Through the diesel engine services segment, Kirby provides after-market service for medium-speed and high-speed diesel engines and reduction gears used in marine and power generation applications. Kirby also distributes and services high-speed diesel engines, transmissions, pumps, compression products and manufactures oilfield service equipment, including hydraulic fracturing equipment, for land-based pressure pumping and oilfield service markets.

Statements contained in this press release with respect to the future are forward-looking statements. These statements reflect management's reasonable judgment with respect to future events. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. Actual results could differ materially from those anticipated as a result of various factors, including cyclical or other downturns in demand, significant pricing competition, unanticipated additions to industry capacity, changes in the Jones Act or in U.S. maritime policy and practice, fuel costs, interest rates, weather conditions, and timing, magnitude and number of acquisitions made by Kirby. Forward-looking statements are based on currently available information and Kirby assumes no obligation to update any such statements. A list of additional risk factors can be found in Kirby's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.