



KIRBY CORPORATION

Contact: Steve Holcomb
713-435-1135

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KIRBY CORPORATION TO PRESENT AT CREDIT SUISSE ENERGY SUMMITT, STIFEL NICOLAUS TRANSPORTATION CONFERENCE AND BB&T TRANSPORTATION CONFERENCE

Houston, Texas (February 6, 2012) -- Kirby Corporation ("Kirby") (NYSE:KEX) announced today that Kirby will present at the Credit Suisse Energy Conference, Stifel Nicolaus Transportation Conference and the BB&T Capital Markets Transportation Conference. Specifics of each conference are as follows:

Credit Suisse Energy Summit

Location: Vail, Colorado

Presenter: Joe Pyne, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Presentation date and time: Thursday, February 9, 2012, 1:10 p.m. EST

Stifel Nicolaus Transportation Conference

Location: Key Biscayne, Florida

Presenter: Joe Pyne, Chairman, and Chief Executive Officer

Presentation date and time: Wednesday, February 15, 2012, 8:30 a.m. EST

BB&T Capital Markets Transportation Conference

Location: Coral Gables, Florida

Presenter: Joe Pyne, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Presentation date and time: Thursday, February 16, 2012, 10:20 a.m. EST

A live audio webcast of the presentations will be available to the public and a replay will be available after the presentations on Kirby's website, <http://www.kirbycorp.com>. A copy of the material prepared by Kirby for the presentations will be available at 7:00 a.m. central time on the day of the presentations on Kirby's website. A replay of the presentations will be available for 30 days.

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, 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, 2010 and quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2011 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.