

## BSL Freight Solutions Pvt Ltd renamed as Transworld Integrated Logistek Pvt. Ltd

Transworld Group, with its three main business verticals of Shipping, Logistics, and Global Forwarding and Logistics, has set about Transformation in Motion. The Global Freight Forwarding and Logistics arm of the Transworld Group is a fast-growing business. The recent expansions into Hong Kong, Houston and Sri Lanka as well as new locations in India, that include Jaipur, Pune, etc., have been a highlight of this division. Transworld Group is now bringing together all its global logistics companies in various countries into the Transworld brand. As part of this move, it is renamed BSL Freight Solutions P. Ltd, its global logistics arm, as Transworld Integrated Logistek Pvt. Ltd. We want to be counted amongst the best logistics solutions providers in the world. Transworld Group has a vision to create a fully integrated and truly global logistics organisation. Our transformation starts with a name change from BSL Freight Solutions P. Ltd to Transworld Integrated Logistek Pvt. Ltd. said Ritesh S Ramakrishnan, Jt. Managing Director of Transworld Group. We have plans to expand our footprint globally. Our current global forwarding network covers 9 countries with 25 offices. We are looking at some very key countries in Africa and Asia besides expanding our existing US offices he added.

## Hamad Port's 2nd container terminal to be operational by next year

Works for the development of Phase II of Hamad Port has already started. With the works progressing on schedule, the second container terminal (CT-2), which is part of the expansion project, is set to become operational by next year, said a top official of QTerminals, which has been awarded the contract. QTerminals is a terminal operating company jointly established by Qatar Ports Management Company (Mwani) and Qatar Navigation (Milaha). "Because of the rapid growth of the Qatari economy, we have already started the development works of Phase II of the Hamad Port, which consist of another container terminal. QTerminals has been awarded the design, develop and operation contract for the CT-2," Neville Bissett, CEO of QTerminals, told. Bissett added: "We have already started the process and looking at appointing a design consultant, and then we will go to appoint contractors to carry out the civil works. And in parallel, we are also in the process of procuring the equipment that will go with the CT-2." Asked about the exact date of the completion of the Phase II project, he said that the timeline is still very fluid but at least the first phase of the CT-2 will be operational next year. He also said that QTerminals is currently working to improve the efficiency of CT-1 of Hamad Port, which is growing very quickly.

## DP World to launch new Central Asian Gateway

DP World has announced it will invest heavily in Kazakhstan's port and logistics infrastructure as it looks to improve the supply chain across central Asia and accelerate the Caspian Sea into a hub of global trade hub, according to a statement. On March 5, 2019, the global trade enabler announced it had signed two agreements with the Kazakhstan government to build SEZ at the Port of Aktau, the country's main cargo and bulk terminal, and Khorgos, situated on the Chinese border and home to the ICD. In a statement, the company said it had done so because the country's vitality potential to boost trade across Asia. Furthermore, it also sees Kazakhstan as an important player in China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), and both SEZs will promote business and connectivity with Dubai. DP World Group Chairman and CEO Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem spoke of Kazakhstan's potential for trade and global logistics: "Our expertise in developing logistics and trade-enabling infrastructure will benefit tremendously from building facilities in Kazakhstan and to the needs of local businesses. "President Nursultan Nazarbayev's vision and progressive policies have laid the groundwork for linking the Far East to Europe and ensuring that the Khorgos Internal Container Depot and SEZ play a crucial role in facilitating this."

## APM Terminals inaugurates Costa Rica terminal

APM Terminals has inaugurated its new container terminal in Moin, Costa Rica, opening direct routes to European and Asian markets for the country which is the world's largest exporter of pineapples and the third largest exporter of bananas. Without any doubt, we are inaugurating a new era in international and intra-regional trade in Central America," said Morten Engelstoff, ceo of APM Terminals. "With this project, the conditions of competitiveness and economic reactivation are being created for the province of Limón and also for the entire country," said Carlos Alvarado Quesada, President of the Republic of Costa Rica who was present at the inauguration. Total investment in Moin, built on a 40-hectare artificial island on Costa Rica's Caribbean coast, is \$1 bn. The terminal, operated under a 30-year concession by AMPT, has a 650-metre long pier, a container yard with the capacity to hold 26,000 TEUs and power connection capacity for 3,800 refrigerated containers and will be able to handle up to 8,000-teu post-panamax vessels. Moin is looking to attract a high percentage of the ships transiting the Panama Canal. The number of shipping routes that reach the Moín Container Terminal is projected to increase by as much as 285%.

## ICTSI inaugurates expansion of Batumi International Container Terminal

Philippines-based International Container Terminal Services (ICTSI) has inaugurated the expansion of its Batumi International Container Terminal (BICT) in Georgia. The project covers the expansion of the waterside and the landside areas of the multipurpose terminal. Expansion is aimed at optimising the processing of existing cargo flows and installing additional capacity to accommodate new business. ICTSI senior vice-president and Europe, Middle East and Africa head Hans-Ole Madsen said: "This new investment consolidates and expands BICT's competitive position. "A comprehensive dredging programme, undertaken in cooperation with Batumi Sea Port, provides an 11.5m draught in the port's fairway and alongside BICT's quay line, allowing easy access for feedermax vessels at the port and making it Georgia's deepest draught port. "On the landside, we have met the stated requirement of importers and established a new container freight station (CFS) complete with a 180m rail spur to facilitate cross-stuffing from containers to rail cars." ICTSI expanded container and truck storage areas. It also introduced a dedicated two-lane gate complex for BICT, following completion of a new highway to Batumi.

## Jacksonville Inks \$238 million deal for port expansion

Florida's third-biggest seaport is expanding a major container terminal and deepening its shipping channel in projects costing hundreds of millions of dollars and aimed at positioning the port to handle a bigger share of U.S. ocean trade. The Jacksonville Port Authority signed a 25-year, \$238 million agreement with Seattle-based port operator SSA Marine this week to expand a container terminal on Blount Island to accommodate more large ships. The project is part of a \$480 million plan to upgrade facilities in Jacksonville, the latest investment at U.S. East Coast ports looking to attract the larger container ships that can travel from Asia through an expanded Panama Canal. The agreement will expand SSA's 50-acre International Gateway Terminal facility to 80 acres by 2023. SSA will invest \$129 million in the facility. At the same time, the port authority is moving forward with a broader plan to deepen the channel facing the Atlantic Ocean. When completed, the terminal will be able to handle ships carrying up to 14,500 containers each, the biggest vessels now able to serve most ports on the U.S. East Coast. Those ships are a growing part of the trade scene on the Atlantic since an expansion of the Panama Canal enabled bigger vessels to come from Asia.

## Colombo to become a smart port within 18 months

A full-scale IT infrastructure drive, featuring upgrades to terminal management and cargo systems, has begun at the Port of Colombo to turn it into a 'smart port' within 18 months. Minister of ports, shipping and southern development Sagala Ratnayaka said: "This is a long-drawn process that will happen over time with rapidly advancing technology. "But our Smart Port initiative will lay the groundwork for the longer-term transformation with the right IT and tech infrastructure." The upgraded terminal management system will include gate automation, yard automation, quay side automation, prime route DGPS, business intelligence tools, web portals and simulation tools. The LKR929m (US\$5m) plan is for the port to operate with greater efficiency and handle a greater volume of activities within a shorter period of time with the use of advanced IT and information systems. Ratnayaka added: "What we need to understand is that being smart is a mindset. Colombo must embrace the Smart Port concept with the right frame of mind. "This is not about upgrading IT and information systems and forgetting everything else. Cleanliness of the port, the attitude of workers, its administration and welfare should also be geared towards the same transformation."

## Jaxport approves new container terminal

The Jacksonville Port Authority (Jaxport) Board of Directors has unanimously approved a long-term agreement with terminal operator SSA Marine for the development and operation of a new \$238.7 million international container terminal at the port's Blount Island Marine Terminal. The facility, SSA Jacksonville International Gateway Terminal, is an expansion of SSA Marine's current leasehold at Blount Island and will offer deepwater berthing space to accommodate the larger container ships calling from Asia more fully loaded. SSA Marine will expand to approximately 80 acres of terminal operating space, with the option to grow up to 120 acres as space becomes available. The facility will offer a vessel turning basin and deepwater access of 47 feet upon completion of the Jacksonville Harbor Deepening project, which is ahead of schedule and expected to be complete in 2023. SSA Marine will contribute \$28 million for exclusive use of Jaxport's three 100-gauge cranes, with those funds going toward the cost of the deepening project. The agreement is for 25 years includes a number of improvements to the Blount Island terminal. SSA Marine will contribute up to \$129.7 million for the use of the terminal and facility upgrades, including the addition of three new 100-gauge container cranes.

## Azerbaijan eyes to increase capacity of cargo terminal in Iran's Astara

The capacity of cargo terminal in Iran's Astara city, which the Azerbaijani side leased for 25 years, is planned to be increased to five million tons per year, said Elkhan Asadov, head of the tariff department of Azerbaijan Railways CJSC. He was speaking at the seventh meeting of the Coordinating Council of the North-South International Transport Corridor in Iran. 'The Azerbaijani side continues to initiate and actively participate in a number of projects to develop the region's logistics potential, said Asadov. 'Over the past years, a common cargo terminal, a container yard and terminal roads with length of 1,800 meters were built. The first test cargo train was launched Feb. 9 along the Astara (Azerbaijan) -Astara (Iran) railway and the wagon unloading process was carried out at the terminal. In general, the terminal complex in Astara consists of four terminals: common cargo terminal, container terminal, grain terminal and oil terminal. Asadov stressed that Azerbaijan attaches great importance to the development of the North-South International Transport Corridor, the creation of direct international railway communication and ensuring uninterrupted and safe transportation of goods, by directly connecting the railway networks of Europe with the countries of the Persian Gulf and India.

## Kanniyakumari port to come up despite obstacles: Minister

Regardless of the obstacles, the new major port in Kanniyakumari district will be established, said Union Minister Pon Radhakrishnan during the launch of a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for Kanniyakumari Port Limited here recently. Union Minister Mansukh L Mandaviya, in the presence of Pon Radhakrishnan launched the SPV. Chennai Port Trust Chairman P Raveendran said, "there is a necessity for the development of the shipping ports in the country as our major trade of export and import occur through the sea. In order to increase the handling capacity of the 12 major ports in the country, Prime Minister Modi launched SagarMala project. While the present total capacity of the ports stands at 1,500 MT, the SagarMala project will bring it up to 3000 MT." This project will be completed by 2025. Through this port, the southern countries could trade with European nations as most of the mother vessels would be anchored in the proposed Kanniyakumari port, he added. Concerning the project details, RK Agarwal, Joint Secretary (Ports), Ministry of Shipping said, "presently, the exporters in South India incur an additional charge of ` 5,000 to ` 6,000 per Twenty-Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) due to the added leg of transshipment and this charge can be avoided once the new port is established.

## Adani Ports and SEZ plans to step up cargo handling at Kattupalli port

Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) has drawn up plans to replicate its success at Mundra port in terms of cargo handling, at the Kattupalli port as well. On an average, Mundra port had handled over 100 million tonnes of cargo for three years in a row since 2016. "Our vision is to have 30 berths at Adani Kattupalli port to handle all types of commodities including coal, liquefied natural gas and liquefied petroleum gas, including chemicals," said Ennarasu Karunesan, CEO — Southern Ports, APSEZ. APSEZ acquired Kattupalli port from L&T in June 2018 and renamed it as Adani Kattupalli Port Pvt. Ltd (AKPPL). It has capacity to handle nearly 25 million tonnes of cargo, which is to be enhanced soon. Currently, the port has two berths that handle containers, bulk and break-bulk cargoes, and automotive vehicles. A third berth is under construction. "In the next six months, liquid terminal operations are set to commence. We will also have an operational warehouse of 3.6 lakh sq.ft. and liquid tank farms with a capacity of 60,000 KL. The liquid tank capacity will be expanded to 3 lakh KL," Mr. Karunesan said. AKPPL had also implemented Terminal Operating System (TOS), a first-of-its-kind initiative in the country which supported the entire supply chain in doing business smoothly, Mr. Karunesan said.

## IMO: World Maritime Day 2019 to raise gender equality awareness

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) will provide an opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of gender equality at this year's World Maritime Day with the "Empowering Women in the Maritime Community" theme. In line with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, the theme would also highlight the important, yet under-utilized, contribution of women within the maritime sector. It gives IMO the opportunity to work with various maritime stakeholders to foster an environment in which women are identified and selected for career development opportunities in maritime administrations, ports and maritime training institutes and to encourage more conversation for gender equality in the maritime space. "Empowering women fuels thriving economies across the world, spurs growth and development, and benefits everyone working in the global maritime community in the drive towards safe, secure, clean and sustainable shipping," IMO's Kitack Lim earlier said. A series of activities and events will be held during 2019 related to the theme Empowering Women in the Maritime Community. Events will include the 3rd International conference on Empowering Women in the Maritime Community at the World Maritime University, Malmö, Sweden, to be held in April, World Maritime Day Parallel Event 2019 in Cartagena, Colombia, and Celebration of World Maritime Day at IMO Headquarters, both scheduled in September.