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Abu Dhabi Ports receives ISO 28000 certification for security management

Abu Dhabi Ports has been accredited with the ISO 28000:2007 certificate of Security Management System for Supply Chain by the global certification provider Lloyds Register Quality Assurance (LRQA). The company received the certificate along with Fujairah Terminals at the Port of Fujairah and Khalifa Industrial Zone Abu Dhabi (KIZAD). The security management system focuses on reviewing the risks and challenges related to the aspects of security and threats including piracy, terrorism and theft. In addition, it also aims to equip managers with the knowledge essential for effective supply chain management and risk mitigation. Capt. Mohamed Juma Al Shamisi, CEO of Abu Dhabi Ports, received the certificates at the Abu Dhabi Ports headquarters, for all four sites in tandem. Commenting on the ISO accreditation, Al Shamisi said, "This ISO 28000 accreditation is an additional step towards our obligation towards maintaining our position as a trusted and reliable business enabler, which only further raises trust and confidence of our customers and stakeholders in our organisation."

DP World, Hong Kong leaders hold talks

Ties between the UAE and Hong Kong are set to grow after discussions between DP World and top government leaders this week. Among a range of topics discussed at the meeting, which came in the wake of the recent establishment of reciprocal trade offices, was collaboration on ports, logistics and customs. A Dubai Export Office was recently opened in Hong and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office plans to open an office in Dubai to attract capital investment. DP World Group chairman and ceo Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem met with Hong Kong chief executive Carrie Lam at a meeting also attended by the UAE Consul General to Hong Kong Nabila Abdelaziz Nasir Saeed Alshamsi, Hong Kong Secretary for Transport and Housing Frank Chan, and other senior officials. The development of financial services and cruise terminal facilities, customs collaboration and the Belt and Road initiative were also discussed. "Hong Kong and Dubai are at the crossroads of world trade and we share common history as capitals of commerce, where well-developed logistics infrastructure has enabled growth of our economies," said the DP World Group chairman.

Hong Kong, UK agree on stronger maritime ties

Representatives of the British and Hong Kong maritime business sectors have signed an agreement to forge a closer working relationship. Under the Memorandum of Understanding, signed on September 12 during London International Shipping Week, Maritime London and the Hong Kong Maritime & Port Board (HKMPB) will co-operate in a range of areas including promotional activity, training and sharing of best practice for maritime business services. "Both the UK and Hong Kong look beyond their borders and provide world beating maritime expertise to global shipowners, traders and charterers. This agreement is designed to help both London and Hong Kong businesses collaborate and prosper with the support of their respective representative bodies," Lord Mountevans, Maritime London Chairman, said. London and Hong Kong are key international shipping and trading hubs with "a shared outward looking and entrepreneurial spirit. Both serve regions beyond their own borders and both have an exciting future," Chan Fan, Frank, JP, Secretary for Transport & Housing, Hong Kong Government, said.

New maritime security corridor for Gulf of Aden and Horn of Africa

The Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) are setting up a security corridor Gulf of Aden and Bab Al Mandeb in response to recent attacks in the region. The busy sealane has become the focus of both renewed pirate attacks and instability from the conflict in Yemen. "Recent attacks against merchant shipping in the Gulf of Aden and Bab Al Mandeb (BAM) have highlighted the risks associated with transiting these waters," CMF said. "The multiple types of risks and the broad expanse of ocean on which these attacks can occur dictate that Naval Forces must be used in the most efficient manner possible. To assist in this, CMF is establishing a Maritime Security Transit Corridor (MSTC)." The MTSC encompasses the Internationally Recommended Transit Corridor (IRTC), the BAM traffic separation scheme (TSS) and the TSS West of the Hanish Islands, and a two-way route directly connecting the IRTC and the BAM TSS. The CMF said it recommended that all vessels use the MSTC to benefit from military presence and surveillance.

DP World launches construction of deepwater port in Posorja, Ecuador

The President of Ecuador Lenin Moreno and DP World group chairman and ceo, Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the beginning of construction of the green field multi-purpose port project at Posorja, Ecuador. Last year, DP World was awarded a 50-year concession from the Government of Ecuador to build a 750,000 teu-facility to connect Ecuador's coast. The \$500m-initial investment -Phase 1- includes the purchase of land, dredging of a new access channel, a 20km-access road and a 400-metre-berth equipped to handle containers and other cargo. Total investment will be over \$1bn for the entire project along with plans to develop a logistics zone and creating a regional trading hub. Additionally, a 1 sq-km-logistics and industrial park, as a Special Economic Development Zone, will be developed adjacent to the port. China Harbour Engineering Company (CHEC) is in charge to build the future port and began in July to work on the access roads. Draught at the port of Guayaquil is 9.5 m which makes currently impossible for the post-panamax vessels to arrive in Ecuador.

Dubai harbour to feature a second cruise terminal

Dubai Harbour will have a second cruise terminal in addition to the one already revealed in January 2017, Dubai-based holding company Meraas informed. "Dubai Harbour will be the first cruise destination to build two terminals simultaneously which when completed will accommodate 1,200,000 passengers annually," the company said. Each terminal will be approximately 14,000 square metres in size with one single apron of 900-metres. The addition of a second terminal is intended to build on Dubai's reputation as a leading tourism destination, while capitalising on strong growth in the cruise industry globally, the company said. Industry data suggest that over 40 million people will travel by cruise annually by 2030, up 40 percent from 24 million in 2017. "By creating a world-class destination that appeals to people around the globe, Dubai Harbour represents an opportunity to achieve economies of scale and drive growth in the maritime tourism sector. It will also help maintain Dubai's status among the world's top tourism destinations for generations to come," Abdulla Al Habbai, Group Chairman at Meraas, said.

Clarksons: Secondhand containership sales at record level

The volume of secondhand containership sales reported in the first eight months of 2017 totalled 0.75 million TEU, exceeding the previous annual record level of 0.64 million TEU set in 2015. According to Clarksons Research, a new monthly record was set in March 2017 which witnessed some 40% of the full year 2016 sales capacity total. In TEU capacity terms, reported containership secondhand sales in the first eight months of 2017 increased by over 60% on the full year 2016 total. While the volume of sales in some boxship sectors remained fairly steady this year so far, there has been a significant increase in the volume of 3-8,000 TEU vessels sold secondhand. A number of factors have helped drive containership sale and purchase volumes to record levels. The opening of the new locks at the Panama Canal has led to old Panamaxes becoming surplus to their owners' requirements, while the financial collapse of South Korean liner company Hanjin Shipping also provided the sale and purchase market with impetus.

Port of Felixstowe all set for latest phase of expansion

Hutchison Ports Port of Felixstowe has decided to award a contract for its latest phase of expansion to VolkerFitzpatrick Limited. Under the contract, set to be awarded on September 15, VolkerFitzpatrick Limited will be appointed to undertake the design and construction of some 13 hectares of paved container yard directly behind Berth 9. The work will include the reclamation of 3.2 hectares of seabed behind the existing finger pier. Completion of the new container yard, which will comprise ten container blocks and allow 6-high stacking, is scheduled for early 2019. The yard will add 18,000 TEU of stacking capacity to the 130,000 TEU already available at the UK's largest container port. "Berths 8 and 9 were the first berths in the UK built to accommodate the latest class of ultra-large container vessels. The creation of additional container storage will allow us to optimise container handling operations between the berth and its supporting yard and further enhance the service we offer to our customers," Clemence Cheng, Executive Director, Hutchison Ports, said.

World's 1st fully automated container terminal now equipped

Kalmar and Navis, parts of Cargotec, have delivered the first OneTerminal automation solution to International Container Terminal Services Incorporated (ICTSI) at the Port of Melbourne, Australia. The deployment has made Victoria International Container Terminal (VICT) the world's first fully automated international container handling facility, according to Cargotec. Located north of Port Phillip Bay at the mouth of the Yarra River in the Port of Melbourne's Webb Dock East, the 35-hectare terminal has an annual capacity of one million plus TEU and an additional 400,000 TEUs on full build. VICT has a straight berth of 660 meters, which can accommodate two large vessels with capacities of up to 8,000-12,500 TEUs at once. "VICT was designed and is now equipped, to be fully automated, making it the most advanced container terminal in the world," Christian Gonzalez, VICT Chairman and Senior Vice President of ICTSI's Asia Pacific Region, commented. "The project was completed on budget and ahead of schedule. This has never been achieved in the port industry for a fully automated terminal." Gonzalez added.

Drewry: Carriers sailing to a golden era of profitability?

Driven by better market fundamentals and greater pricing discipline, carriers are now finally getting their strength back and looking forward to a potentially golden era of profitability. Most container shipping lines returned to profitability in the second quarter as expected, but significantly the recovery is more broad-based, according to shipping consultancy Drewry. This time last year the majority of carriers were mired in debt with revenues collapsing faster than they could cut costs, and of course they were also dealing with the immediate fallout from Hanjin Shipping's bankruptcy. Fast-forward through an action-packed 12 months when the merger and acquisitions bandwagon, that had already started before the market hit the bottom of the current cycle, gained even greater momentum and carriers are getting back on track. "Even greater pricing discipline should prevail as more lines emerge from their own troughs, which combined with a brighter market outlook and a smaller field should ensure the recovery is more sustainable than before," Drewry said.

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