



Transworld enters handysize pair into Hanseatic Unity pool

Transworld Group Dubai has decided to appoint the Hanseatic Unity Handysize Pool to manage the chartering activities for MV TBC Princess and MV TBC Prestige by their offices in Hamburg and Singapore. With this fresh addition HUHP will be handling a total fleet of 24 Handysize between 32,000 to 40,000 DWT with an average age of 5 years and a combined DWT of just below 1 Million tons. This makes HUHP one of the leading Pools for Eco Modern Handysize Vessels in today's market. The TBC Princess' first employment will be a combination cargo of Steels and Grains loading in Argentina and Brazil destined for the US Gulf with a duration of around 50 days. TBC Prestige is currently discharging a cargo of Sugar at London and will join the Pool when entering into the next employment fixed by HUHP. Established already in 1977, today Transworld Group's activities go far beyond those in dry bulk, with 40 offices around the globe being involved in all kinds of maritime and logistics services. HUHP is a joint venture between Reederei NORD GmbH and Peter Döhle Schifffahrts-KG set up in July 2018. The HUHP provides exclusive pool services for vessels in the Handysize segment of their founding partners as well as other third-party customers.

Abu Dhabi Ports bullish on shipping container volume growth amid coronavirus crisis

State-owned Abu Dhabi Ports on Tuesday signalled that it was optimistic about container shipping volume growth this year despite the coronavirus pandemic that has hit the global maritime transport industry. "We can expect continued growth in containerisation; the ports have not slowed down through this period. If anything we've seen an upswing based on demand [and] so we don't see a major impact," Robert Sutton, Abu Dhabi Ports' head of logistics cluster, said at a webinar on global trade and logistics. Movement restrictions, quarantines and expatriate labour disruptions caused by Covid-19 caught many companies across the world off guard. "Why does that matter for the UAE? There is a high reliance upon workforce from overseas... [and] the high percentage of imports supplied into the UAE – if you put those together, you almost have the perfect storm," Mr Sutton said. The Covid-19 pandemic has presented both challenges and opportunities for the company, he said. One opportunity is the increase in demand for essential items, he said.

DP World acquires TIS container terminal, Ukraine

DP World has completed the acquisition of a 51% stake in TIS Container Terminal in the Port of Yuzhny, Ukraine, after receiving regulatory approval. According to a statement, acquisition will expand DP World's operations as well as strengthen TIS Container Terminal as one of the key market leading purpose-built terminals in Ukraine by leveraging DP World's global network of ports, economic zones, warehousing and inland logistics solutions. The acquisition marks DP World's second major partnership with TIS shareholders, the first being with P&O Maritime Ukraine which provides harbour towage services in the principal Black Sea ports in the Ukraine. Furthermore, the acquisition will make Ukraine's trade "more resilient" and enable DP World to link its terminals in Constanta and Yarmca with TIS Container Terminal using its Unifeeder network. "Today ushers in a new and promising era, as we expand our global portfolio in Ukraine," said Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem, Group Chairman and CEO of DP World.

Best record performance witnessed at Mombasa port

Container carrier Mv. Cosco Yinkou docked Friday at berth No.21 and is expected to complete discharge and loading operations this afternoon. KPA Crane operator and the man of the moment George Ominde recorded 362 moves per crane shift, registering the best performance since the beginning of the year. The vessel worked with three Ship to Shore gantry cranes registering a total of 914 moves during the shift leaving a balance of 978 moves, both in and out. She is expected to sail later in the day recording fast turnaround time. Get breaking news on your Mobile as-it-happens. SMS 'NEWS' to 20153. This is quite remarkable considering that the shipping industry is also grappling with the Covid-19 pandemic. It was a double victory for the container carrier as she also marked her maiden call to the port under the new joint service dubbed Mashariki by two world largest shipping lines. In this sharing agreement Maersk and COSCO (China Ocean Shipping Company) ranking the top and third-largest shipping companies respectively increase their network for Eastern Africa region.

Tianjin Port and SITC launching new shipping service to Southeast Asia

The north Chinese port of Tianjin and shipping logistics service provider SITC International Holdings (SITC) are jointly setting up a new service for Southeast Asia. Four 1,800 teu containerhips will be deployed on the service that will provide a direct shipping service from China to Ho Chi Minh/Qui Nhon in Vietnam and Bintulu in Malaysia. With the improvement on Covid-19 control and prevention, the cargo volume for Tianjin-Southeast Asia is recovering, the shipping cost could be further reduced when the new shipping service started. Tianjin Port and SITC also signed port and shipping strategic co-operation framework agreement to focus on the container shipping routes developing in Asia and promote sea-rail combined transportation. Currently, Tianjin port is connected to over thirty container shipping routes to Southeast Asia. The port posted 17.3m teu container throughput in 2019.

CargoX's blockchain platform chosen to clear India's container backlog

CargoX's Platform for Blockchain Document Transfer (BDT) has been chosen by India's maritime industry to improve document processing and the flow of goods in the country's ports. In a statement, CargoX said it had entered a partnership with Portall Infosystems, a company responsible for building India's electronic port community system to digitalize the processing of bills of lading and the transfer of trade documents. This follows Portall Infosystem's successful testing of CargoX's BDT platform, which examined its ability to handle the needs of India's maritime industry, particularly in procession electronic bills of lading. The COVID-19 pandemic has made it necessary to utilise smart technologies and innovations, such as an electronic bill of lading, to clear the backlog of goods at ports. The value of the port digitisation, it was predicted that the pandemic would accelerate the implementation of an electronic bill of lading. The Government of India has started evaluating ways to implement trade documentation across all EXIM transactions in India.



APM Terminals & NRC restore rail service at Nigeria's Apapa Port

As part of efforts to reduce traffic congestion on roads, APM Terminals Apapa and the Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) have restored rail connectivity for containers to the Lagos Port Complex (LPC) in Apapa. An official statement said that the terminal and the NRC have developed a new Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), which bridges the communication gap and ultimately leads to more efficient cargo evacuation by rail. With the closure of a section of the Apapa Bridge for repair works, the resumption of rail services will help reduce a backlog of containers waiting at the port. The Port has recently seen a growth in barging operations with a growing number of containers moved daily by barges from the port. APM Terminals constructed the port's rail line and connected it to the national line in 2013, to provide alternate to road transport for customers.

Bangladesh-India trans-shipment trial run likely this month

The first trial run of the trans-shipment of Indian goods through Bangladesh will take place this month amid the Covid-19 pandemic, according to sources. After the trial, and based on its outcome, a full phased trans-shipment movement of Indian vehicles through Bangladesh's roads will get underway soon. In the first trial, India will carry goods to Tripura and adjoining states via Akhaura and Bibirbazar land port of Bangladesh after they arrive at Chittagong port. Recently, the High Commission of India in Dhaka had written to the Shipping Ministry, requesting a date for the trans-shipment trial run. That letter, having got the nod of the Shipping Ministry, is now awaiting a green light from the National Board of Revenue (NBR) and the Roads and Highways Department, on the clearance of which the trial run will start. State Minister of Shipping Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury told Dhaka Tribune that, this trans-shipment would benefit the economies of both Bangladesh and India.