



Dammam port records highest number of container handling from one ship

King Abdulaziz Port in Dammam has set a new record through the operator of the second container terminal, Saudi Global Ports Company, with the handling of 12,691 modular containers from the largest container ship, COSCO SHIPPING AQUARIUS, representing the highest record for container handling from one ship in the ports of the Eastern region in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The ship is operated by the Orient Overseas Container Line OOCL based in Hong Kong, and it is considered as one of the largest ships in the world, with a length of 400 meters, width of 59 meters, and a capacity of 19,273 TEUs. This achievement is an affirmation of King Abdulaziz Port's ability to deal with all types of ships and goods, as well as its high and competitive operational capacity that contributed to placing it within the map of important global ports. It is reported that King Abdulaziz Port is the largest Saudi port on the Arabian Gulf, and is characterized by its location which is an integrated commercial window linking the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the world with 43 berths, an area of 19 km², and a capacity of 105 million tons.

India-funded Chabahar port in Iran to be integrated with Free Zone

India's first-ever port investment overseas at Chabahar in Iran is gaining momentum with the Persian Gulf nation approving the integration of the port with the Free Zone operating in the area and the opening of a branch by an Afghanistan bank soon. The integration of Chabahar port with the Free Zone was approved by the Iranian Guardian Council. Subsequently, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO) of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Free Zone Authorities on June 9 for implementation of laws and regulations of the Free Zone in the port of Chabahar. "The inclusion of the port in the Free Zone is expected to boost the cargo through the port," Arun Kumar Gupta, Managing Director of India Ports Global Ltd (IGPL) told. India Ports Global is a fully owned by Sagarmala Development Company Ltd, a company controlled by the Shipping Ministry. The trade is also upbeat with the announcement that Ghazafar Bank of Afghanistan will soon open a branch in Chabahar, Gupta said.

Adani Ports eye Colombo box transshipment pie with government backing

India will likely field the Adani Group as its nominee in a planned India-Japan-Sri Lanka partnership that would jointly run the East Container Terminal (ECT), the fourth at Colombo port, a regional transshipment hub through which India routes a fourth of its container cargo every year, multiple sources including a top Sri Lanka Ports Authority official, has indicated. "During discussions with Indian government and embassy officials, when we talk of who is coming (as Indian partner), how they are coming and the people who have shown interest in the project, what I can remember is only the Adani Group. They are the ones being mentioned," General (Retd) R M Daya Ratnayake, Chairman of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA), told BusinessLine. "But, officially, we have not got anything yet (from the Indian government)," Ratnayake added. SLP is the state-owned operator of commercial ports in Sri Lanka. "To me, the indications are that India will participate in ECT through the Adani Group," said an Indian government official briefed on the development.

DP World creates feeder, shortsea network serving ports across the globe

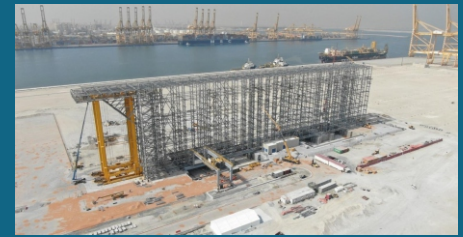
By integrating its recent acquisitions Unifeeder and Feedertech, DP World has created a feeder and shortsea network serving hundreds of ports across the globe. Unifeeder, which recently acquired Feedertech, operates feeder and shortsea services around northern Europe and throughout the Mediterranean and Northern Africa regions. Feedertech provides similar services connecting ports in South East Asia, the Indian subcontinent and the Middle East. The services have now been integrated onto one platform building a strong trade-oriented network across the majority of the globe. DP World typically uses relatively smaller vessels to link a great number of outports with global hubs such as Jebel Ali, where cargo can connect onto large Transocean container ships. Shortsea solutions are complementing the offering by supplying inter-regional shortsea connectivity. DP World's Unifeeder and Feedertech platforms further strengthen the capabilities of its main ports in Dubai's Jebel Ali, Jeddah Islamic Port and ports in India, Africa and Europe, enabling shippers and consignees worldwide to ship goods, via DP World's major ports, to final destinations across the Middle East, South Asia, Europe and Africa using DP World's integrated land and marine logistics network.

Afghanistan transits 76-TEU cargo to India through Chabahar

Afghanistan has sent 39 containers with a total capacity of 76 twenty-foot equivalent unit (TEU) to India through Iran's southeastern Chabahar port, IRIB reported, quoting Behrouz Aghaei, the director general of Sistan-Baluchestan Ports and Maritime Department. According to Aghaei, 30 refrigerated containers and nine conventional ones were shipped from Chabahar port on Tuesday heading for the Indian ports of Mandra and Nhava Sheva. In 2016, Iran, India, and Afghanistan decided to jointly establish a trade route for land-locked Central Asian countries. India sent its first consignment of wheat to Afghanistan through Iran's Chabahar Port back in 2017. Later on, Afghanistan officially started exporting goods to India through Chabahar port in a ceremony held in early February 2019. The event was attended by Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, along with Iranian Ambassador to Kabul Mohammadreza Bahrami and Indian Ambassador to Afghanistan Vinay Kumar.

Dubai launches marine agency to regulate, promote dhow sector

The Ports, Customs and Free Zone Corporation (PCFC) has launched the Marine Agency to regulate the dhow sector and strengthen Dubai's trade environment, it was announced on Saturday, July 4. The Marine Agency, launched in cooperation with Dubai Maritime City Authority, will be the only entity responsible for dealing with dhows during their presence in Dubai waters, and to consolidate their safety and security. It will collect fees, wages and expenses due to concerned government authorities from dhow owners or operators and pay them on their behalf. It will also monitor seafarers' work as dhows are docked at the ports and harbours until they depart. The agency is also responsible for forming joint task forces to deal with accidents, crises or disasters to ensure maritime safety of dhows in Dubai waters and improve services. It will also ensure that dhows comply with the safety and security requirements and that seafarers have all firefighting equipment and rescue tools.



DP World ready to start testing radical new box storage system

DP World reports it has completed assembly of a 'Proof of Concept' test section of the world's first container High Bay Store System (HBS) at Jebel Ali Port in the UAE. DP World reports it has completed assembly of a 'Proof of Concept' test section of the world's first container High Bay Store System (HBS) at Jebel Ali Port in the UAE. Dubbed 'BoxBay', the automated handling system stacks containers up to 11 stories high in a fixed rack framework and has been developed as a joint venture by DP World and SMS engineering group of Germany. Trial operations on the test section, which contains 792 container slots, are due to start at Jebel Ali before September. Installation of the test section was completed when an automated truck handling crane was assembled on site this week. Eventually it is planned that containers will also move in and out of BoxBay on underground conveyor belts before being lifted to their slot in the rack by stacker cranes.

Iran-Kuwait container shipping line launched

A refrigerated container shipping line between Islamic Republic of Iran and Kuwait started its activity with forwarding the first shipment of agricultural food products via this port. The first consignment of this shipping line, as weigh as 160 tons including various types of food products, fresh fruits and vegetables, was loaded by Landing Craft "Arabakhtar" and exported to the destination country within the framework of eight refrigerated containers. This ship has the capacity of transporting eight refrigerated containers, with a total capacity of 497 tons, which is active in the field of export of agricultural and livestock products, he highlighted. Considering the policies adopted in the field of activity of all affiliated ports and use of facilities and infrastructures created in them, necessary planning was made for launching a containerized line between Genaveh Port and Kuwait. Export of goods via this port can lead to the lower costs for exporters due to the short distance of 140 miles to Kuwait.