



## DP World Cochin records highest-ever container, transshipment volumes

DP World operated International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT) at Cochin has achieved its all-time highest monthly throughput of more than 66,000 TEUs in November 2020, registering a 43 percent Year-on-Year growth. The terminal consistently surpassed monthly volumes of over 60,000 TEUs in the past three months. The terminal also achieved a key milestone of successfully handling 4.5 million TEUs since inception. DP World Cochin also recorded highest ever transshipment volume of 12,326 TEUs in November 2020, recording over 40 percent Year-on-Year growth in transshipment volumes. "Despite the ongoing crisis, the terminal's volumes have increased significantly with customers preferring to ship out of Cochin. This performance illustrates the terminal's capability to handle cargo volumes efficiently and deliver exponential value to customers and stakeholders. With regular rail service set up between the terminal and ICD Whitefield in Bangalore with the support of CONCOR and the Indian Railways, the cargo from other states has increased. In 2020, the terminal has seen a four-fold increase in rail volumes as compared to 2019, said the release.

## Jaya Container Terminal of SLPA phase 5 construction commences

The construction of the Phase 5 of the Jaya Container Terminal (JCT) of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) commenced last week, adding a new chapter to the history of Sri Lanka's ports and shipping industry. The event was held with the initiative of Ports and Shipping Minister Rohitha Abeygunawardena and with the participation of Warehouse Facilities, Container Yards, Port Supply Facilities and Boats and Shipping Industry Development State Minister Jayantha Samaraweera and SLPA Chairman General Daya Ratnayake at the Phase 4 of the Jaya Container Terminal (JCT) of the SLPA. Development of the JCT commenced in March 1983. The first Phase of the terminal was opened in 1985, the second in 1987, the third in 1995 and the fourth in 1996. SLPA Chairman General Daya Ratnayake said that the golden era of the port and shipping industry in Sri Lanka from 2005 to 2015 would re-commence with the construction of Phase 5. State Minister Jayantha Samaraweera said that the era of loss caused by the loss of the Hambantota Port had ended and a new era of port development had begun with the phase 5. Minister Rohitha Abeygunawardena said that the JCT Phase 5 was initiated by the previous government.

## Hamburg Port Consulting to study the redevelopment of Beirut Port

Hamburg Port Consulting and Munich-based management consultancy Roland Berger are to jointly conduct a strategic study for the redevelopment of the Port of Beirut, following the disastrous explosion at the Lebanese hub in August. The partners are preparing a comprehensive proposal with options for a new approach in its needed reconstruction and in the operations of the port. The study is to include proposals for a better integration of the port area into the city of Beirut as well as showing how its overall investment and finance can be tackled. HPC has had a more than 20-year relationship with the port to provide support in efficient cargo operations, assisting in equipping the port with suitable cargo handling equipment for example. Suheil Mahayni, managing director at HPC, said: "We have been shocked by the devastating explosion that occurred on August 4. Given our longstanding relations with Beirut, we immediately offered our support and help. "We have been active since almost immediately after the explosion and stand by our readiness to support the further consultancy, reconstruction and operations of the Port of Beirut."

## China says it is taking steps to ease shortage of containers

Responding to the ongoing reports of a shortage of containers and the shipping industry's struggle to manage the supply of containers, China's state-run media is reporting that China is taking steps to ease the shortage of containers. The officials cited a surge in China's exports and the low turnaround rate of containers from aboard as the causes for the increased demand for containers. They also noted that it is the peak season for exports to Europe and the United States, which is also contributing to the shortage of containers. Speaking at a news conference, a spokesperson for China's Ministry of Commerce said that steps are being taken to increase the supply of containers. They said that China will continue to work with related parties to provide more containers to the market, speed up the turnaround of containers, and help container manufacturers to expand productivity. The state media noted that the China Container Industry Association is urging shipping container manufacturers to increase the production of the standard boxes. They reported that China has produced 300,000 TEUs per month since September to help ease the shortage.

## E-integration of King Abdullah Port community system completed

King Abdullah Port and the General Directorate of Border Guard in Saudi Arabia have announced completion of integration of the Port Community System and the Directorate's Zawil e-portal, which offers access to different types of permits, including port entry permits. The e-integration was finished under the supervision and coordination of the Economic Cities and Special Zones Authority (ECZA). The integration was initiated to boost efficiency and security of operational processes and streamline port entry procedures. ECZA secretary-general Mohanud A Helal said: "We are looking forward to reaping the fruits of this integration in King Abdullah Economic City (KAEC) and to raising the Kingdom's ranking on the Logistics Performance Index. This achievement is among several others that have established the importance of KAEC as a business, industrial, and logistics hub on the Red Sea, which is embodied in the unique business model whereby the developer plays a major role in making the port the main outlet for goods entering the kingdom and other neighbouring countries. The e-integration will enable multiple public and private systems, managing the port's operations, to benefit from the data in a secure manner.

## Abu Dhabi Ports dedicates warehouse for storage of Covid-19 vaccines

The move forms part of the launch of a broader UAE public-private partnership called the Hope Consortium, of which ADP is a member, to facilitate the distribution of vaccines around the world. By spearheading the initiative, Abu Dhabi hopes also to cement its position as a global logistics hub. For its part ADP is assisting the immunisation drive by dedicating a 19,000 sq m temperature-controlled warehouse facility in Khalifa Industrial Zone Abu Dhabi (KIZAD) for storage of the vaccine, with more than 1m vials already in situ. ADP's KIZAD warehouse facility is able to store vaccines and other pharmaceutical products at a range of 2 to 8 degrees Celsius as well as the more extreme range of -80 degrees and is equipped with temperature and humidity systems that are monitored around-the-clock digitally via a control dashboard. Capt. Mohamed Juma Al Shamisi, ADP Group ceo, says: "As our nation's key strategic logistics enabler, we have invested in one of the region's largest and most expansive logistics capabilities. ADP is ready to play a leading role in the end-to-end supply chain including storing, processing, and distributing this extremely sensitive product."

## DP World and P&O Ferries offer to transport COVID vaccines to UK for free

Pan-European ferry and logistics company P&O Ferries, owned by DP World, has offered to transport COVID-19 vaccines into the UK free of charge. The United Kingdom has become the first Western nation to authorize the COVID-19 vaccine developed by US pharmaceutical giant Pfizer and its German partner BioNTech. The UK Government has ordered 40 million doses of the vaccine, which is expected to be enough to vaccinate 20 million people. "We stand ready to support the Government in getting all the necessary vaccines into the UK," a spokesperson for DP World said in a statement. "What's more, we are willing to do this work for free should we be asked to do so, to help play our part in getting the UK through the pandemic as fast as possible." The first doses are expected to be rolled out across the UK next week. Pfizer and BioNTech have submitted their vaccine candidate to the US Food and Drug Administration as well as the EU's European Medicines Agency (EMA) for approvals, which are expected by the end of December. The two-shot vaccine has been developed in a record time of 11 months and the primary analysis after three study stages involving 42,000 people indicates that it is 95% effective.