



Adani Ports partners John Keells to develop West Container Terminal of Colombo Port

Adani Ports and Special Economic Zones Ltd (APSEZ), a key subsidiary of the diversified Adani Group, has received a Letter of Intent (LOI) from Sri Lankan authorities for development and operations of (WCT) in Colombo. APSEZ will partner with John Keells Holdings PLC, Sri Lanka's largest diversified conglomerate, and with the Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) as a part of the consortium awarded this mandate. The WCT will be developed on a Build, Operate and Transfer basis for a period of 35 years as a public-private partnership. WCT will have a quay length of 1400 meters and alongside depth of 20 meters, thereby making it a prime transshipment cargo destination to handle Ultra Large Container Carriers. The project is expected to boost WCT's container handling capacity and further consolidate Sri Lanka's locational advantage as one of the world's top strategic nodes along the busiest global transshipment route. The Colombo Port is already the most preferred regional hub for transshipment of Indian containers and mainline ship operators with 45% of Colombo's transshipment volumes either originating from or destined to an Adani port terminal in India.

DP World JV completes first 10,000 container moves at Dubai port

DP World, the Dubai-based enabler of worldwide smart end-to-end supply chain logistics, has announced that BoxBay – its joint venture with the German industrial engineering specialist SMS group – has successfully completed the first 10,000 container moves in its high bay store system at Jebel Ali port in Dubai. The key milestone demonstrates the disruptive technology concept works, and makes possible dramatic changes to the way containers are handled in ports around the world. Construction of the test facility with 792 container slots was completed in July last year in Terminal 4 of Jebel Ali Port in Dubai, said the statement from DP World. BoxBay is a patented automated container handling system that stores containers up to eleven stories high in steel racks. It delivers more than three times the capacity of a conventional yard, so the footprint of terminals can be reduced by up to 70 percent. The system is designed to run automatically and enables any container to be accessed individually without moving any other, it stated. DP World said traditionally these containers are stacked one on top of the other in rows meaning many containers have to be moved to access containers lower down in the stacks.

Piraeus retains largest Med port crown in 2020

According to port research initiative Port Economics, 5.437m teu were handled by Piraeus port during 2020, while 5.415m teu were transported through Spain's Valencia. When it comes to Europe, the top three places were held by the traditional leaders, Rotterdam with 14.349m teu, Antwerp with 12.023m boxes and Hamburg with 8.52m teu. The top 15 ports in Europe handled 76.8m teu in 2020, down 2.8% when compared to 2019. Though the coronavirus appeared in China in December 2019, its impact on European ports began to become visible in March 2020. As Port Economics points out, almost all of the top 15 ports recorded strong recovery in the second half of 2020, hence reducing total losses for 2020. This was particularly so in the case for Le Havre which was down 29% for the first half of 2020, but 14% for the full year, Barcelona, Valencia, Hamburg and Genoa as the vast majority of Europe's top 15 ports closed with losses last year. The two ports that record vertical growth in the European port system, Piraeus and Gdansk in Poland, recorded losses. After many years of continuous growth, they lost 3.8% and 7% respectively.

DP World returning to Indonesia with \$1.2bn terminal in Gresik

DP World has partnered with Canadian investment group Caisse de Depot et Placement du Quebec (CDPQ) based in Quebec, in signing a \$1.2bn agreement with Indonesia's Maspion Group to build an international container port and industrial logistics park in Gresik. A joint venture company called DP World Maspion East Java will be established between DP World, CDPQ and Maspion Group, which the terminal operator said was the first of its kind in the Indonesian transportation sector involving a foreign direct investor and a private sector Indonesian company. DP World previously operated the PT Terminal Petikemas Surabaya (TPS) terminal in Surabaya, East Java, a concession it acquired with the purchase of P&O Ports, however, did not renew the agreement to continuing running the terminal when it expired in 2019. Works on the project in Gresik are scheduled to begin in Q3 2021, and upon completion DP World Maspion East Java will become the sole operator of the 3m teu international container port. DP World and CDPQ will also work with Maspion Group to develop an integrated industrial and logistics park, adjacent to the container terminal, with an initial land area of 110 hectares.

MAWANI, Hapag-Lloyd sign first commercial agreement to increase number of containers

Saudi Ports Authority (MAWANI) signed Wednesday a one-year commercial agreement with the leading global liner shipping company Hapag-Lloyd. The agreement is the first commercial agreement aiming at increasing the number of containers in Saudi ports, as it will contribute to increasing the total number of transshipments in Jeddah Islamic Port. MAWANI aims through this agreement to enhance the role of Jeddah Islamic Port as a link between the world's three continents, making it a global logistics hub. The agreement will contribute to promoting the role of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as a leading hub for logistic services. It also represents the confidence of international shipping lines in the operational capability of the Saudi ports. The Saudi ports currently acquire approximately 20% of the transshipment market in the region, as well as 80% of the total transshipment market in the Red Sea. They also target to acquire more than 50% of the transshipment market by the end of 2030, consolidating the Kingdom's strategic position as a global logistics hub, in line with the objectives of the Kingdom's Vision 2030, being represented in the National Industrial Development and Logistics Program (NIDLP).



CMA CGM Air Cargo flies first A330-200F commercial flight

The new air freight division of the CMA CGM Group, a French container transportation and shipping company, has just completed its first cargo flight between Europe and the United States. Based at Liege Airport (LGG), the global shipping giant flew its recently acquired Airbus A330-200F from LGG to Chicago O'Hare International Airport (ORD) on March 13. The aircraft, registration number OO-CMA, is the first of four second-hand freighters that CMA CGM is buying for its new air cargo division, aptly named CMA CGM AIR CARGO. Because of the huge demand for air freight, rather than waiting to purchase new aircraft, the planes were acquired from Qatar Airways Cargo. Likewise, rather than waiting to get its Air Operators Certificate (AOC), CMA CGM AIR CARGO's aircraft will be operating under Air Belgium's AOC.

Panama calls market consultation on LRIT operations

The AMP issued a call for interest from companies or corporations, joint ventures or associations for applications to the Market Consultation for the Provision and Operation of LRIT for Ships of the Republic of Panama's Ship Registry and Related Services. In particular it is seeking companies that can supply all the components required to implement the Ship Identification and Tracking Centre, in strict compliance with the IMO's LRIT standards and other related services. These other services include providing the national data centre of Panama (CND) with recovery facilities in case of disaster; services of Panama's recognised application service provider (ASP), including contracting communications service providers (CSP); services of identification and monitoring of interior service ships; services of identification and monitoring of international service fishing ships; service of Ships background investigation; service of receiving alerts and SSAS tests.