



DP World reports record earnings in 2021

DP World has seen strong financial results for the last year with the group chairman and CEO, Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem, saying it is important that the growth was broad-based across the company's terminals and logistics assets. DP World has achieved significant year-on-year increases in revenues and adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization (EBITDA) of 26.3% and 15.3% respectively. The company's revenues surpassed US\$10.7 billion, while EBITDA reached US\$3.8 billion. "We are delighted to report this strong set of results with adjusted EBITDA growing by US\$0.5 billion to a new record of US\$3.8 billion," pointed out Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem. The UAE-headquartered operator said that the revenue growth was driven by acquisitions and new concessions, including Angola, Unico and Transworld Feeders, while the group's containerised revenue growth is higher than volume growth mainly due to higher storage and reefer monitoring revenue. Meanwhile, DP World has already announced that its total container volumes were 77.9 million TEU in 2021, which translates to an increase of 9.4% compared to the previous year's throughput. The company remains optimistic for the current year, as it has already seen an encouraging start of 2022.

Containerised LNG rolls out as alternative to traditional bunkering

Hamburg-based ship engineering and consultancy Marine Service GmbH and London-headquartered repair and retrofit coordinator Newport Shipping have developed a containerised liquefied natural gas (LNG) fuel tank solution for newbuildings and existing container vessels as an alternative to traditional LNG bunkering. The concept consists of container stowage on free deck in a safe area. The gas handling room is arranged adjacent to the container storage and separated from the containers by a cofferdam and fire protection means, allowing the feeding of low-pressure and high-pressure fuel gas systems for all known 4-stroke and 2-stroke dual-fuel engines, the companies explained. The LNG fuel tank container has a capacity of 31 gross tonnes and about 33 sq m of LNG. The containers have a fail-safe dry quick coupling connection and are approved for loading in up to 7 layers high stacks. The total number of containers can be optimised according to requirements and can be installed onboard when a ship is in port, the companies said. Newport Shipping will offer full retrofit services for Marine Service GmbH's LNG fuel tank container solutions at its 15 yards that it works in cooperation with.

APM Terminals Kalundborg completes first year of operations

APM Terminals (AMPT) Kalundborg in Denmark has completed one year of operations as it received the first vessel call on 1 March 2021. Fully owned by APMT, the container terminal that has a yearly capacity of 50,000 TEU is offering approximately 12 hours shorter steam times by sea, while it is also helping remove heavy trucks out of the Copenhagen traffic. During the year, the Danish terminal gained importance as an alternative to the capital of Denmark, given that the majority of containers discharged in the latter are transported onwards to other destinations in the country. Furthermore, the terminal offers 24/7 operations, truck turn times in an average of 10 minutes, and a comprehensive service offering, including maintenance and repair and reefer capabilities, according to a statement. Located on an area of 50,000 m² in North West Zealand, APM Terminals Kalundborg has a berth length of 500 metres, a maximum draft of 15 metres and 100 reefer plugs. The terminal has also adopted cleaner fuel solutions, selecting gas-to-liquids (GTL) fuel for its reach stackers and terminal tractors, allowing the use of cleaner fuel in conventional diesel engines and producing significantly less smoke.

Singapore sets targets for maritime decarbonisation

Singapore's Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) sees port terminals in the city-state reducing emissions by at least 60pc by 2030 from 2005 levels in a blueprint targeting net zero emissions from shipping by 2050. The Singapore maritime decarbonisation blueprint, launched earlier this week, lays out strategies and goals to be achieved by 2050 through measures such as using cleaner energy. It will also help Singapore meet the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris climate agreement goals and the International Maritime Organization's low-carbon maritime targets. All domestic harbour craft will operate on low-carbon fuels by 2030, and full electric propulsion and net zero fuels by 2050. This will lead to a 15pc reduction in absolute emissions by 2030 from 2021 levels and a 50pc reduction by 2050 from 2030 levels, the MPA said. The port of Singapore will also supply a variety of low- and zero-carbon fuels such as biofuels, methanol, ammonia, and potentially hydrogen, as well as enable green technologies such as carbon capture, storage, and utilisation, as Singapore readies itself for a "multi-fuel bunkering transition", the MPA said.

JSW Container Terminal at New Mangalore Port to be operational in March

JSW Mangalore Container Terminal Pvt Ltd, the PPP (public-private partnership) company tasked with creating and operating the container terminal at New Mangalore Port, is expected to start commercial operations by the end of March. On Tuesday, AV Ramana, Chairman of the New Mangalore Port Authority (NMPA), told media in Mangaluru that the integrated container terminal at berth no. 14 would begin commercial operations in the fourth week of March. NMPA currently handles approximately 1.5 lakh TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) of containers each year. He claims that once the JSW terminal is in place, the port will be able to accommodate 3 lakh TEUs in a year. JSW's project at New Mangalore Port aims to mechanise berth 14 for container and other clean cargo handling. The container terminal will be built in two stages for a total cost of 280.71 crore. Phase 1 of the project, which began in January 2021 and is nearly complete, is nearing completion. The mechanisation of berth no. 14 is intended to boost efficiency, cut turnaround time and logistical costs, and make the supply chain more fluid, according to KG Nath, NMPA's Deputy Chairman.

Avana Logistek Ltd enters containerized rail logistics

Avana Logistek Ltd has ventured into rail logistics by moving its first full rake of 90 containers from Haldia to Panipat ICD. Avana Logistek is a market leader in coastal shipping in India and provides multimodal coastal containerized services covering all the major ports. In an initiative to provide wide range of logistics services to its customers, Avana Logistek is also exploring plans to offer customized products integrating various modes in synergy with DP World. DP World runs 7 ICD's and PFT's with over 30 rakes for EXIM and domestic business. "The foray into rail logistics is a step ahead in our vision of serving and fulfilling the customers requirement by offering one stop customized solution to their logistics needs through optimization of cross vertical resources by developing strong synergy with our group company DP World's diversified range of products," C M Muraledharan, CEO, Avana Logistek said.

Saudi Ports inks deal with Bahri to set up logistics park at Jeddah Port

Saudi Arabia's Ports Authority inked a long-term deal with Bahri, the national shipping company, to build and operate an integrated logistics park at Jeddah Port, local media reported. The new logistics facility, covering a total area of 95,436 square metres, will help the Kingdom become a global logistics hub. The agreement was signed by Omar Talal Hariri, President of the Ports Authority, and Eng. Abdullah Ali Aldubaikhi, CEO of Bahri. "Launching this project is part of our initiatives to achieve the objectives of the National Transportation and Logistics Strategy, which envisions setting up similar logistics zones within and beyond Saudi ports," said Hariri. "Leveraging Jeddah Port's strategic location, this agreement will further expand Bahri's import, transport, distribution, and storage capabilities and help the company raise the level of its services according to international standards," he said. Once built, Bahri will manage operations at the state-of-the-art facility for 20 years. The logistics park will provide storage and handling services for all types of inbound and outbound shipping containers that are owned by Bahri and other entities. It will be capable of storing reefer, insulated and dry containers with services like container maintenance and repair, container cleaning, bonded storage, and haulage available to clients at any given point.