



## LATEST LOGISTICS AND FORWARDING NEWS – Thursday 15th September 2011

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- Calais to become a major gateway in Europe
- CGM CMA will develop a container terminal in Jamaica

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## France

### Marseille to increase the use of rail freight for pre and post shipment of containers

Due to heavy congestion on the highways of France, the Marseille Port Authority intends to more than double over the next 10 to 15 years, the use of rail transport in the pre and post shipment of its sea containers.

The Marseille Port Authority recently launched a call for projects to build and operate a hub for freight trains to and from the North of France and other European destinations.

The government will support this initiative by investing 24 million euros to improve rail infrastructure from the port and by enabling an easy access to the national rail network.

### Calais to become a major gateway in Europe

Calais wants to position itself as a major gateway in Europe and will launch one of the most ambitious logistics projects with the construction of 220 000 square meters of warehouses and 20 000 acres of land for assembling and storage facilities.

Companies in the logistics, distribution and automotive manufacturing fields, will invest 300 million euros. The project is expected to be completed by 2015.

### CGM CMA will develop a container terminal in Jamaica

French shipping company CGM CMA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to develop the Gordon Cay Container Terminal in the Jamaican port of Kingston, for a minimum period of 35 years.

This move follows the project of the Panama Canal to widen its access. "New Panamax" vessels with capacities up to 12,500 TEU, will be able to use the Canal while its limit is now 4 000 TEU. CGM CMA will use Kinston as a hub to accommodate these large vessels.



## INDIA

### The port of Mundra bans ships older than 25 years of age

After an oil spill caused by a sunken Panama-flagged cargo ship which was carrying 60,000 tonnes of Indonesian coal, off the coast of Mumbai, the port of Mundra has banned vessels older than 25 years of age from entering its waters.

### Carlson group is expanding fast

The Carlson group is expanding fast in India and intends to bring the total number of rooms from 4 027 now to nearly 10 000 in that country by 2015. The hotels will aim at the mid-market segment.

Executive Vice-President for Asia Pacific of Carlson Hotels, K. B. Kachru said to the press that they will launch a new hotel through a franchisee in Bangalore in mid 2012 and will also target visitors in Munnar in Kerala with another hotel.

### Finnair extends its network

Air carrier Finnair has extended its network by adding 7 more destinations (Mumbai, Bangalore, Pune, Hyderabad, Chennai, Jaipur and Ahmedabad ) in India, through its partnership with Kingfisher Airlines.

Finnair offers connections to the 60 cities of its European network via Delhi and Helsinki.

Furthermore, Finnair is launching soon full all-cargo flights to Mumbai, in association with Nordic Global Airlines. A Boeing MD-11Fs will be used.



## MADAGASCAR

### Air Madagascar charts a Boeing from EuroAtlantic for a period of one year

Air Madagascar charts since the beginning of September and for a period of one year, a Boeing 777 from the Portuguese aviation company Euroatlantic so as to maintain the link with France.

### New opportunities for textile factories

Buyers of textile products from France, Spain and Italy, are back in Madagascar due to the rise in the price of finished goods in China and also, due to the fact that textile factories of that country are focusing on their domestic market.

“Enterprises which are members of the cluster, are obtaining new orders. Now, we are working to respond to the needs of the buyers, including the direct customers, by following the requirements in terms of quality, social and environmental aspects”, stated to the press Mr. Bernard Iserentant, administrator of the association Textile Mada.

### Cut in the variable profit margin of filling stations

Petroleum companies have cancelled 40% of the variable profit margin of filling stations, causing several operators in the distribution network to close down or to stop opening during the night so as to reduce their expenses.



## MAURITIUS

### Rs 3.3 billion to be invested in the port next year

The Mauritius Ports Authority (MPA) intends to invest Rs 3.3 billion next year to extend the containers terminal.

Three vessels each having a capacity of 8000 to 9000 TEU, will be able to berth at the quay at the same time. The length of the quay will be increased by 240 meters from 560 meters now to 800 meters.

Furthermore, dredging works are planned to increase the sea depth from 14 to 16.5 meters so that bigger ships can call at Port Louis.

### The second phase of the Mauritius Ports Authority project

This second phase might require investments of Rs 6 billion or US \$ 180 million. The sea depth at the quay will be brought to 18 meters, enabling Port Louis to welcome vessels with 11 000 containers. If this project is turned into reality, Port Louis expects to handle about 750 000 containers per year compared to 442 000 last year.

### Free trade agreement between Mauritius and Turkey

A 'Free trade agreement' was signed on the 10<sup>th</sup> September between Mauritius and Turkey. Trade between the two countries is expected to double within the next two years to reach 100 million US dollars.



## MOZAMBIQUE

### Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Botswana sign a MoU to develop a deep-water port

The governments of Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Botswana have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to develop jointly a deep-water port at Techobanine in the South of Mozambique.

Moreover, an oil pipeline and a rail link 1100 km long, are planned from the Mozambican port to land-locked Botswana and Zimbabwe. The whole project will cost an estimated US \$ 7 billion and is expected to take ten years to complete. The initial works will begin next year.

### The port of Beira can now accommodate large vessels

Since the beginning of August, ships of more than 60 000 tons can once again call at the port of Beira, after 28 years.

The dredging works of the access channel costing 43 million euros, have been completed. 27.5 km have been dredged over a depth of 11 meters and a width of 230 meters.

### Mozambique will invest US \$ 380 million in the expansion of Maputo Port

Mozambique will invest \$380 million to double the capacity of the port of Maputo to 40 million metric tons.

This initiative follows the plans of Botswana to use that port as the final destination of its 20 million tons of coal and other minerals, for export to other countries. In addition, the port of Maputo is used by companies from the neighboring countries such as South Africa, Swaziland and Zimbabwe.



## OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD

### Pakistan Railways to reorganize its freight service

Pakistan Railways belonging to the public sector, will reorganize its freight service through a Rs 2 billion loan and by securing 2 other billion rupees from private firms such as 3 terminal operators at the port of Karachi, company Daudkhel Cement and a multinational oil company.

20 diesel locomotives will be modernized to offer freight services by train from Karachi to other parts of the country.

### Maersk Line expects rates to be under pressure on the Asia-Europe trade

The Group chief executive of Maersk Line, Nils S. Andersen told the press that “we expect the slow economic growth and market volatility to continue for the coming quarters.”

According to Maersk Line, although demand will increase, rates will remain under pressure due to newly build vessels will enter the market, especially on the Asia – Europe route. The shipping company anticipates growing demand from Latin America and Africa in the long term.

### New service by MSC for New Zealand

Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) will launch in October a new Oceania Express Service comprising the port of Tauranga in New Zealand. The vessels will call at Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Tauranga, Balboa, Long Beach and Melbourne.

MSC will use the port of Tauranga as a hub, transshipping cargo from the six other New Zealand ports used by the 3 other MSC services servicing that country (Capricorn, Kiwi and Pacific Island services).