

Eight new straddles arrive in Tilbury

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PRESS RELEASE

LONDON CONTAINER TERMINAL'S EIGHT NEW KALMAR STRADDLES ARRIVE IN TILBURY

London Container Terminal in Tilbury today (11th May) welcomed the arrival of their eight new Kalmar straddle carriers aboard the specialist vessel the *BBC Nordland* as part of the port's growing container business.

The eight Kalmar ESC450W carriers have been made with specifications to match the 14 straddles acquired in 2013 to ensure consistency in the fleet. The new carriers have a 50tonne load carrying capacity with twin-lift spreaders capable of handling the full range of container sizes.

Three of the new straddles are part of LCT's equipment replacement programme, with the other five going into service to meet the increase in container business at the terminal. The current fleet at the terminal is now 40 straddles.

Stuart Wallace, Divisional Director of Forth Ports (owners of LCT) said: *“It’s great to see our new straddles arrive this week. With this further investment we continue to secure Tilbury’s position as a key shipping and distribution location with unrivalled access to London and the South East of England. LCT is one of the most efficient UK ports for handling containers, bringing benefits to our customers with improved turnover of vessels and road side trucks. Tilbury handles in excess of half a million containers each year, and is the only UK port truly servicing both deep sea and short sea customers. Customers also benefit from access to Europe’s largest portside chill store which NFT opened at the port this year.”*

Over the past four years, LCT has invested in two Paceco ship-to-shore cranes, a Liebherr 550 mobile crane, 14 new Kalmar straddle carriers, a single reception gate covering both security and container processing, new cranes, a bespoke ICT system and surfacing work. Forth Ports’ investment programme at London Container Terminal comes to around £20million in total.

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Further information/images:

Debbie Johnston, Spreng Thomson - 0141 548 5191 / debbie@sprengthomson.com

Notes to Editors:

About The Port of Tilbury - the major Port to London and the South East

The Port of Tilbury is London's major port, providing fast, modern distribution services for the benefit of the south east of England and beyond. A dynamic and diverse port handling the full range of cargoes with specialist expertise in the handling of paper and forest products, containers & Ro Ro, grain and bulk commodities and construction and building materials.

Tilbury's strategic location makes it the natural point for distribution with 18 million people living within 75 miles. Serving the UK's market, the port offers customers excellent transport links to and from the capital and

across the South East where over 50% of the population live and work.

The Port is a diverse multi-modal hub, covering over 1100 acres and is well positioned to access the M25 orbital motorway and the rest of the UK's national motorway network. In addition, there are direct rail connections within the Port, with access to the whole of the UK and dedicated barge facilities.

London Container Terminal (LCT) provides a unique combination of European Short Sea and Deep Sea services at the same facility. As the UK's third largest container terminal, Tilbury handles over half a million containers per year.

The London Construction Link (LCL) is a collaboration between the Port of Tilbury and S. Walsh, one of the leading construction solutions companies in London. The partnership is seeking to relieve congestion on the capital's roads, with associated cycling safety and CO2 benefits, through promoting greater use of construction consolidation and the use of the river for construction projects on or near the Thames. LCL builds upon the Tilbury's pedigree as the logistics and distribution hub for the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics and S. Walsh's success as the largest marine operator on the Thames. LCL is supported by British Cycling.

www.forthports.co.uk / www.londoncontainerterminal.com / www.londondistributionpark.com @forthports