

Press release:

Congo Terminal continues to invest with the acquisition of two new STS gantries

Congo Terminal, a Bolloré Ports concession, is reinforcing its capability with two new state-of-the-art ship-to-shore (STS) gantries.

The acquisition of the two new gantries will be able to load and offload ships with a capacity of 16,000 containers. Added to the four existing gantries, they will significantly improve productivity at the Port Autonome de Pointe-Noire. The new equipment will help to address the requirements of international ship owners and Congo Terminal's commercial partners.

Since 2009, Bolloré Ports, through its Congo Terminal subsidiary, has invested substantially to make the Port Autonome de Pointe-Noire into a modern, highly-efficient platform on a par with the world's leading ports and among the most efficient in Africa.

The investments have focused firstly on deepening the draught and lengthening the wharves. By the end of 2016, total available wharf length will have been increased to 1.5 km. Secondly, they have been used to acquire modern information systems and a range of operating and handling equipment, including four mobile cranes, 16 rubber tyred gantries (RTG), and six STS gantries for a total of 34 bn FCFA.

In just a few years, Congo Terminal has practically doubled its storage areas, now totalling over 32 hectares (79 acres), ten of which have been reclaimed from the sea. On completion of the D wharves at the end of 2016, the area will have been extended to over 40 hectares (almost 100 acres).

Since the project began in 2009, Congo Terminal has invested 235 bn FCFA. In 2016 alone, investments have amounted to 34 bn FCFA, of which 11 bn FCFA were spent on the two gantries delivered this week.

Today, with the new infrastructures, Port Autonome de Pointe-Noire has the capacity to process over 11 million containers per year, compared with 150,000 in 2009. In 2015, Congo Terminal handled over 600,000 containers.

The progress has made Port Autonome increasingly competitive, and this is reflected in:

- **reduced average times at berth for the biggest ships from 3 days to less than 24 hours**
- **no more waiting in the roads for container ships**
- **increased port handling capacity** with over 75 loading and offloading movements per hour.

Human Resources policy focusing on training and the transfer of skills:

Congo Terminal also pursues an ambitious policy to create local jobs and develop new skills. Over 750 permanent employees are trained in the most modern port management techniques.

Partnering a Congolese engineering school and offering a continuous training programme, the company each year invites some thirty trainees for immersion in the professional environment, while raising the technical skills of the operators to match the state-of-the-art technology of the latest equipment acquisitions.

About Bolloré Ports:

Bolloré Ports is a division of Bolloré Transport & Logistics, one of the world's top ten transport and logistics groups. Since 2009, Bolloré Ports has been operating the container terminal at Port Autonome de Pointe-Noire through its Congo Terminal subsidiary.