



Container terminal in Odessa to be expanded

By 2012 HPC Ukraina, a subsidiary of Hamburger Hafen und Logistik AG (HHLA), is to invest the equivalent of 70 million euros in the expansion of its Odessa Container Terminal (OCT) in the Ukraine. Following a call for tenders, HPC Ukraina has awarded the contract for the “Quarantine Mole” expansion project. With a quay length of 650 metres and a water depth of 14.5 metres, in future the terminal will offer optimal conditions for handling containerships with slot capacities of between 6,000 and 9,000 TEU. OCT is accordingly reacting to sustained growth in ship sizes in the Black Sea. Where Odessa will be the main hub.

Klaus Schmöcker, President of HPC Ukraina: “Odessa is the most significant and important port in the Ukraine and has top priority for shipping lines. In awarding the contract for the expansion project we are securing our strategic position on the Black Sea.” With around 46 million inhabitants, the Ukraine is one of the most heavily populated countries on the Black Sea. The bulk of the Ukraine’s imports and exports are handled through the Port of Odessa. The port achieves a market share of around 50 percent of total container throughput. The International Monetary Fund expects for 2010 a GDP growth of 3.7 percent in the Ukraine and an increase in annual economic performance of

between 4 and 5 percent in the following years. HPC Ukraina has been operating the Odessa Container Terminal (OCT) with great success ever since 2001. In the years 2007 and 2008, with a throughput of more than 500,000 standard containers (TEU), OCT was already working at its capacity limits. After a substantial decline in 2009, in the first half of 2010 volumes have recovered by 45 percent in comparison to last year. And expecting the increase in 2011 and following years against the modernization of the port.

The Odessa Port Authority will meet the bulk of the infrastructure related investments to the agreed expansion of the container terminal. By 2012 HPC Ukraina will invest the equivalent of 70 million euros in expansion of the terminal. The existing management and service contract for the operation of OCT is being extended by 20 years to the end of 2044.

The opportunities for handling the largest containerships calling in the Black Sea will increase OCT’s terminal capacity to 850,000 TEU per year. The terminal shall afterwards be implementing further stages of expansion in line with demand. On completion of expansion, the terminal will be able to handle more than 1.2 million TEU per year.