



PRESS RELEASE

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Port Of Grangemouth orders new Liebherr ship-toshore crane

The Port of Grangemouth, Scotland's largest container facility, has placed an order with Liebherr for a new multimillion pound ship to shore container crane as part of a major investment programme at the port to increase handling capacity and service for customers.

Liebherr is one of the world's leading port crane manufacturers and this new crane which can handle vessels with 14 containers stowed across the deck, is part of a focus on securing Grangemouth as Scotland's number one container port and providing the facilities required to service future container volume growth for export and import cargoes both in European and International Markets.

The crane will be designed and built in Liebherr's state of the art facility in Killarney, south west Ireland, and then shipped into Grangemouth for onsite construction. The crane will be ready for use in autumn 2018 and will increase vessel turnaround times, capacity for growth and support existing operations. The new crane is also future proofed to enable taller straddle carriers to work underneath the crane legs.

Derek Knox, Grangemouth's Port Manager, said: "The new Liebherr ship to shore crane is supporting our growth plans through investments in infrastructure and equipment at the Port of Grangemouth. We handle some of Scotland's most valuable exports, such as fine foods and drinks, so it is important that we deliver fast turnaround times to maintain the vessel schedules and ensure their reliability to service the Scottish export market.

We have found a great partner in Liebherr who have an excellent reputation in crane technology and we enjoy a strong existing relationship with them. Our new crane will ensure that we have a single fleet of ship-to-shore cranes provided by Liebherr which provide consistency for the operations and engineering team. We are looking forward to receiving the crane next year."

Gerry Bunyan, Sales and Marketing Manager, with Liebherr Container Cranes said: "We are delighted to have secured the order for this additional ship to shore crane and to be part of Port of Grangemouth's further development / growth plans. We have an excellent working relationship with Port of Grangemouth as in the past we have supplied two ship to shore cranes to the port, the last being in 2007. The reliability and performance of these cranes has cemented the ports position as Scotland's premier container port. This latest purchase of this new larger ship to shore crane will future proof the handling capabilities at the port and provide the additional handling capacity to service customers"

As part of the ongoing major investment programme at Grangemouth, the port welcomed three new ESC340 straddle carriers earlier this year increasing the fleet at the container terminal to 16. The port also added a new Hyster empty container handler to the fleet this year. The new straddles, empty container handler and the new Liebherr crane will increase the handling capacity for both conventional containers and reefers (refrigerated containers).

More than £6 billion worth of goods passes through Grangemouth each year including steel plate, timber, paper and equipment for the oil and gas industry. Grangemouth container terminal reached its 50th anniversary on 7 May 2016.

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About Forth Ports Limited

- Forth Ports Limited owns and operates eight commercial ports in the UK Tilbury on the Thames, Dundee on the Firth of Tay and six on the Firth of Forth Leith, Grangemouth, Rosyth, Methil, Burntisland and Kirkcaldy.
- The Port of Grangemouth operates Scotland's largest container port and handles in excess of 155,000 containers per annum. Regular container services are now available from Grangemouth with frequent daily sailings to Rotterdam, Antwerp, Felixstowe and Hamburg. Most of the major lines utilise these feeder services to link with mother container vessels plying between the world's major ports. Short sea box traffic is also carried on the weekly services for onward transportation to destinations in Europe and Scandinavia. An important base cargo for the container services is the carrying of Scotch whisky, but significant business includes chemicals in bulk containers, electronic goods, machinery and manufactured goods. Grangemouth is also Scotland's largest reefer port principally from Scotland's fresh food exporters, created by a significantly longer season for the shipping of such produce as potatoes, cheese, fish and seafood to markets across the world.
- Within and around the Firths of Forth and Tay, Forth Ports manages and operates an area of 280 square miles of navigable waters, including two specialised marine terminals for oil and gas export and provides other marine services, such as towage and conservancy.
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