

BG Freight Line doubles feeder frequency to Liverpool

Market demand calls for upgrade to service from Rotterdam

BG Freight Line, the short-sea / feeder specialist based in Rotterdam, has confirmed that it will increase the frequency of its services to Liverpool as a direct response to market demand.

The Jork Ruler and Doris Schepers will join the Margareta B to provide an express twice-weekly connection between Rotterdam and Liverpool. The Jork Ruler service will also service Dublin, while the Doris Schepers and Margareta B will serve Belfast. The upgrade comes a year after BG Freight launched their first service to the Port of Liverpool, which is owned and operated by Peel Ports.

The additional sailing will enhance connectivity between deep sea European and the Northern UK hub ports. Timely connections and quick and easy discharge effectively link the service to the heart of the UK market via Peel Ports' Manchester Ship Canal container shuttle service. The shuttle service, itself upgraded due to customer demand earlier this year, will move in excess of 20,000 TEU in 2013. The cost and carbon benefits of the shuttle service have already attracted feeder customers like Kellogg, Kingsland Wines, Princes Foods and Regatta Clothing.

Ross Thompson, Commercial Director at Peel Ports said: "We are delighted to welcome BG Freight Line's second weekly feeder service between Rotterdam and Liverpool.

"The launch of this second weekly service confirms both a response to increased intra-European short sea demand, as well as our commitment to further enhance deep sea schedule synchronisation and integrity between Rotterdam and the growing NW Port and markets.

"The new service reflects Peel Ports' intention to invest across our services so that we can offer our customers the most efficient and cost-effective routes to their markets."

BG Freight Line is a subsidiary of the Peel Ports' Group. The increased service launches in June.

Issued by The BIG Partnership on behalf of Peel Ports

(continues)



Contact: bethan.mackenzie@bigpartnership.co.uk / 0151 600 5126 / 07842 770 311

About the Peel Ports Group

The Peel Ports Group is strategically located to serve the whole of the United Kingdom. Five major gateways from Clydeport to Medway handle a broad spectrum of international trade amounting to more than 65 million tonnes of cargo a year.

At the centre of the country and the heart of the Group are the Port of Liverpool and the Manchester Ship Canal, a continuous water highway forming a single facility of major strategic significance. A unique series of inland ports and logistics hubs along the Ship Canal make this Green Highway Network a viable and sustainable port-centric network.

The Manchester Ship Canal container shuttle service will move in the region of 20,000 containers across a distance of 44 miles between the ports of Liverpool and Manchester in the coming year. That volume is set to increase in 2015 when Liverpool2, Peel Ports' landmark deep water terminal, becomes operational.

Liverpool2 will allow vessels up to 13,500 TEU to call directly at the Port of Liverpool, meaning shipping lines will be able to operate some of the world's largest vessels in close proximity to the UK's central logistics hub and a population of 35 million consumers within a radius of 150 miles.

Clydeport serves Scotland's industrial heartland. Heysham in Lancashire provides a significant springboard for trade between Britain and Ireland.

Medway Ports sit on the doorstep of the nation's capital in the prime South East Region of England. The Group also includes the operation of container terminals in Belfast and Dublin.

BG Freight Line is a subsidiary of the Peel Ports' Group.

<http://www.peelports.co.uk/>