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First China Shipping vessel calls APM Terminals Zeebrugge

Zeebrugge, Belgium - Following the recent signing agreement by China Shipping Container Terminals for a 24% shareholding in APM Terminals Zeebrugge, APM Terminals proudly announces the first call of China Shipping Container Lines' CSCL Star on the AEX7 service on 3 October.

"We are extremely proud to welcome China Shipping Container Lines to our facility. This new service adds more supply chain options for importers and exporters in the Hamburg-Le Havre range – and we will apply our high productivity skills to these vessels and the future 18,400 TEU ships from CSCL" commented Mark Geilenkirchen, Managing Director, APM Terminals Zeebrugge.

APM Terminals currently holds a 51% majority share in APM Terminals Zeebrugge N.V., with the Shanghai International Port Group (SIPG) having acquired a 25% share in the facility in 2010.

In 2012, the port of Zeebrugge handled approximately 2.2m TEU and is capable of handling the largest container ships in the world with its deepwater depth.

APM Terminals Zeebrugge is located close to the main shipping routes in Northwestern Europe, offering ideal intermodal connections - including rail and inland waterway access to the Belgian Hinterland and all other main European markets. The facility has a 900 meter quay wall, 7 post-Panamax STS cranes with 23-container wide reach and excellent labor productivity. The expansion of the quay wall (400 meters) is near completion to allow two large vessels at the same time with ample space for barges and feeders.

Shanghai-based China Shipping Container Lines, established by the China Shipping Group in 1997, is now the world's 9th-largest shipping company, with 142 vessels. China Shipping Terminal Development has holdings in 13 port facilities in mainland China, as well as shares in terminals in the ports of Los Angeles and Seattle in the USA, and Damietta, Egypt. Total throughput, measured by equity share for China Shipping Terminals was 8.6 million TEUs in 2012. The China Shipping Company recently ordered five 18,400 TEU capacity vessels, representing the largest containerships in the world.

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