

Cape Town Container Terminal reduces vessel backlog to one

[Cape Town – Tuesday, 6 February 2024] The Cape Town Container Terminal (CTCT) completed three vessels in a single shift over the weekend, reducing vessels at anchor from four to one – despite three hours of lost time due to fog. The recent marked improvement in productivity demonstrates responsive plans that have been put in place on the road to recovery.

The terminal also continues to facilitate plans and work with its stakeholders, including shipping lines and fruit exporters, to ensure that the full consignment of planned containers arrive at the terminal while the vessel is still loading. Acting Managing Executive at the Western Cape, Oscar Borchards said, “It’s important that we maximise refrigerated container intake.”

Vessel Santa Rita is planned to sail with a planned total of 1 750 refrigerated containers in the next two days. However, the confirmed number of refrigerated containers that have reached the terminal is 1 730. Customers are battling a global shortage of empty refrigerated containers that has long been a matter in peak seasons, placing pressure on both the terminal’s and supply chain’s capacity.

Borchards added that recovery initiatives are progressing well, including scheduled overtime workings and increased management visibility on the quayside. He said that volumes had increased weekly, giving assurance that continuous improvements were starting to yield results.

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Notes to the Editor



The Cape Town Container Terminal forms part of a network of 19 Transnet Port Terminals (TPT). TPT is South Africa's leading terminal operator responsible for loading and offloading cargo aboard vessels calling the seven South African ports. Boasting a staff compliment of over 9000 across 16 sea-cargo terminals and 3 inland terminals, TPT's operations target four major market sectors namely: automotive, containers, bulk and break bulk. Current plans are focused on geographic expansion, service innovation and diversification aided by competitive approaches hinted by the fourth industrial revolution. For information, visit www.transnetportterminals.net

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