

Marseilles in deal on post-reform labour transfer

Marseilles Fos management and the CGT trade union have reached an agreement on the transfer of port authority dockers based at Mourepiane container terminal, in the Marseilles harbour area, to the private stevedoring company Intramar.

The transfer of cargo handling to private operators was a key requirement of French port reform law passed in July last year, which prompted the post-reform strategy adopted by Marseilles Fos in April.

Under the agreement reached yesterday (28 July 2009), the port authority has pledged to support container activity in the Marseilles harbour by taking a “minority but significant” stake in Intramar.

The authority says that the agreement improves on the national framework for transfer arrangements and responds to concerns expressed by affected members of its workforce.

It adds that the deal brings to an end several weeks of labour disruption at the Mourepiane terminal, which mainly handles intra-Mediterranean trades.

For port images, see Espace presse/Phototheque at www.marseille-port.fr