

Simplified customs system for Fos-Distriport box transfers

A simplified customs procedure for the transfer of import cargo from Fos container terminal to the adjacent Distriport logistics zone is now in place following summer trials of an upgrade to the automated system.

Saving time and money, the new 'transfer' database function on the Marseille Fos port information system AP+ means that shippers and forwarders no longer need an individual customs transit document for each container.

Specially created to enhance the port's competitiveness, the function was developed by system provider Marseille Gypsis International in collaboration with customs authorities, shipowners' and forwarders' associations and the port authority.

At current volumes the new measure will simplify the inter-facility transfer of 175,000 import containers a year. This number is set to treble by 2012 with the opening of new warehouses at Distriport and as traffic builds at the Fos 2XL container terminal extension due on stream next year.

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

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