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SOLAR PANELS REACH NEW HEIGHTS AT HIT

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Business Unit: HUTCHISON PORTS HIT

Hongkong International Terminals (HIT) is reaching for the skies to reduce its emissions and generate green energy, after rolling out two quayside cranes machinery houses installed with a total of 168 solar panels, some 52 metres above the ground. HIT is the first port operator in Hong Kong to install this innovative technology on its cranes which will generate a total of 42,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity per year.

HIT is partnering with CLP Power Hong Kong Limited (CLP), to expand its 'Equipment Electrification Directive' across its container terminals in Hong Kong.

Currently, solar panels are being installed on the roofs of 18 substations and two main buildings at HIT which generates approximately 900,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity or stands for a reduction of 350 tonnes of carbon emissions annually.

Furthermore, CLP conducted a carbon emission analysis by collecting energy consumption data from rubber-tyred gantry cranes (RTGCs) at HIT. The results found that electric-powered cranes reduce carbon emissions by 60 percent and 70 percent compared to hybrid or diesel-powered cranes, respectively.

HIT has introduced electric-powered gantry cranes since 2008 and from 2023 to 2024 first quarter, HIT further converted 14 hybrid RTGCs to electric-powered cranes. The company's carbon emissions for 2023 recorded a reduction of over 15,000 tonnes when compared with 2022, which is equivalent to the carbon emissions of 9,000 CLP household users for 12 months.

The company aims to further convert 68 hybrid RTGCs to electric-power and replace 60 gasoline or diesel vehicles with electric-powered vehicles by 2030 to further reduce carbon emissions. Last year, CLP awarded HIT with the prestigious 'Carbon Management Excellence Award' in recognition of the company's effort to reduce carbon emissions by adopting innovative energy-saving solutions to achieve carbon neutrality.

