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THE 'BEST' IS YET TO COME

Winter 2024 / Spotlight / Sustainability
Business Unit: HUTCHISON PORTS BEST



Hutchison Ports BEST terminal in Barcelona has a long-standing reputation as a leader in the development of green container terminals in the Mediterranean region. BEST has achieved this standing through the sustainable development of infrastructure and its green operations. The terminal is a leader in port innovation in the region and has continuously enhanced and optimized operations to maintain efficiency and sustainability.

BEST sets industry standards and has become a reference point for excellence in container logistics, thanks to the collective effort, experience, and passion of the team "Society and consumers are increasingly demanding sustainable treatment of products from the point of production to distribution, throughout the entire supply chain and in this area, BEST is already providing many differentiating factors. Currently, each container that passes through our terminal reduces emissions by almost 70 percent, when compared to a conventional terminal." said Guillermo Belcastro, CEO of Hutchison Ports BEST.

Lately, there has been significant progress in our green initiatives, with a goal to achieve sustainable operations. One such project is the installation of solar panels on roofs of buildings at the terminal; this energy-generating equipment can produce 1.18 GWh of electricity, equivalent to the annual electricity consumption of about 200 homes.

In addition, on 12 July, BEST launched its 'OnShore Power Supply' system (OPS), in partnership with the Port of Barcelona, which is the first of its kind at a container terminal in the Mediterranean. The OPS system generates 100 percent renewable-origin electricity to vessels allowing them to turn off their engines while at berth at BEST.



Lluís Salvadó (5th from left), Port of Barcelona President; Clemence Cheng (6th from right), Managing Director of Hutchison Ports - Europe and Co-Chair of Group Sustainability Committee; Guillermo Belcastro (2nd from left), CEO of Hutchison Ports BEST and honourable guests at the OPS opening ceremony.



Clemence Cheng (right) and Lluís Salvadó (left) at the OPS opening ceremony.

On September 17th, the MSC METTE, the first mega vessel with a capacity of 24,116 TEU, became the first ship in Southern Europe to connect to OPS at BEST.

Moving up

Hutchison Ports BEST has invested in more eco-friendly equipment, such as the electric Reach Stacker to reduce the carbon footprint of the terminal, making it the most sustainable and efficient terminal in Southern Europe.

The incorporation of the electric Reach Stacker is a significant step towards the decarbonization of the terminal's operations, contributing to the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions into the atmosphere.

14 new electric rail-mounted automated cranes (ASC) also operate at BEST, this equipment will increase terminal capacity by 25 percent in the coming months and raise yard efficiency from 27 to 34 automated blocks. Seven cranes were already operational in September and the other seven are to be commissioned in 2025.

This new investment will result in an increase in the terminal's operational efficiency and storage capacity and will contribute to the continuous improvement of the quality of service in both maritime and inland services.

The Group has already begun the process of replacing equipment powered by fossil fuels with all-electric machinery which is a significant step towards the decarbonisation of the terminal's operations, contributing to the group's greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets and 2050 net-zero target.

