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PTP PHASE II CONTAINER YARD SPACE ON SCHEDULE FOR MID- APRIL COMPLETION

The Port of Tanjung Pelepas Phase II development programme is progressing on schedule with the first four rows of container yard blocks 10,11 and 12, expected to be completed in mid-April.

The new container yards are located behind berths 7 and 8, and will provide improved loading capacity and stacking of loaded containers up to six containers high. All the rows of the three new yard blocks are expected to be completed in August, boosting yard capacity by a staggering 40%, up to 154,000 TEUs at any one time.

Support facility construction is also on schedule, and at the end of April, a brand new 22KVA substation will provide power for the latest generation 82 tonne super post panamax gantry cranes that will firmly establish PTP at the frontline of container terminals of the future. The cranes will be operational in the fourth quarter of this year, and will be capable of handling 40ft container twin lifts.

In addition, the new wharf office No. 4 has also been completed and handed over to its new tenant for fitting out.

Furthermore, construction of the basic infrastructure for Free Zone Distribution Park B has begun, and this includes road works, drainage, utilities and power substations. Completion is scheduled within the next 13 months.

The Phase II development programme began in 2003 with the reclamation of land for an additional eight berths offering a water frontage of 2.88km. The first two berths, 7 and 8, were completed in July 2004, and these provide a significant upgrade from the wharf structures in Phase I.

Whereas the six berths of Phase I were designed for vessels up to 110,000 dwt, the new Phase II berths are capable of accommodating ships more than double the size, and up to 250,000 dwt. With draughts alongside the new Phase II berths of up to 19m, PTP will be capable of handling the latest planned generation of containerhips up to 12,000 teu.

These berths also provide unique design features geared towards handling the mega vessel of the future which includes the ability to accommodate future gantry cranes that will have a rail spacing of 45m - an increase of 50% on the maximum of 30.5m used by current super post panamax cranes.

A PTP spokesperson said, "We are very pleased with the progress of our second phase of development. As a forward-looking port, we are always planning ahead to be at the forefront of container terminal technology, and offer shipping lines the capacity and commitment to cater to their future needs."

Background Information - PTP

PTP, South East Asia's fastest growing port, is strategically located at the southwest shoulder of Johor with a minimum diversion time from the confluence of the main international shipping lanes. PTP's strategic location presents significant geographical advantages through its deep waters, sheltered bay and wide access channel. PTP offers 8 berths of 360 meters each totaling 2.88 km in length backed by one of the largest container yards in the region with a storage capacity of 110,000 TEU.

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