

UAE

Advanced system at Jebel Ali Port reduces transaction time

DP World has announced the addition of new e-Services to the advanced automation system at its flagship Jebel Ali Port. The new services – e-Oil Billing, e-Certificate and e-Gate Pass systems – are designed to introduce better economies for the supply chain and improve traffic flow. Together they can save customers hours of time.

The e-Oil Billing System

automates the billing process for DP World customers using the Oil Terminal Berth, enabling terminal operators to submit the statement of quantity upon completion of vessel operations. Customers can view an estimation of the charge and download the invoices instantly after approval from the documentation section.

The e-Certificate

offers customers an easy way to submit requests for generating Landing Certificates. It also helps them settle the certificate fees through the Dubai Trade e-Payment portal. The requested certificate can be printed from customers' premises upon approval from the documentation section.

The e-Gate Pass service allows customers registered

in Jebel Ali Free Zone to obtain the necessary gate passes that allow their cargo to exit through DP World gates to the local roads.

DP World's new e-Services will be offered on the Dubai Trade platform, the single-window online service used primarily by importers, exporters, freight forwarders, clearing agents and haulers. ■

USA

Tideworks helps speed cargo through MIT in Panama

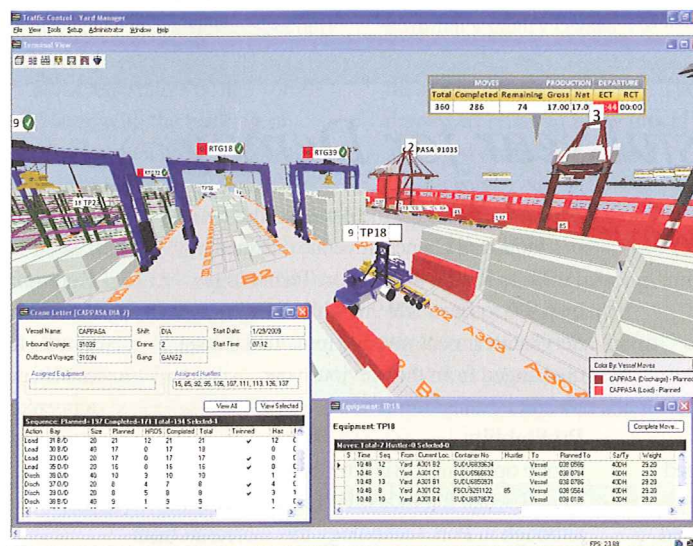
Container terminal success hinges on moving cargo quickly, safely and cost effectively.

Unfortunately in most cases, container handling equipment allocation depends on yard clerks who dispatch work assignments to equipment operators on a first come, first serve basis.

According to Seattle-based Tideworks Technology, this process, which utilises sizeable labour and equipment resources, all too often results in equipment operators chasing container moves up and down the terminal thereby wasting fuel, increasing emissions, causing congestion, and delaying operations.

This was once the case for Panama's Manzanillo International Terminal (MIT), one of the largest container transshipment hubs in Latin America. Today however, the 2.2m teu capacity terminal equipped with 14 ship-to-shore gantry cranes, has transformed the resource intensive work order dispatch method into a seamless, automated process with the help of Tideworks Technology's Traffic Control(TM) with Terminal View(TM).

Traffic Control dynamically



The Tideworks Terminal View is an immersive virtual world

controls the terminal's container handling equipment by automatically dispatching container move instructions via wireless computers to the ideal container handler at the optimal time. Using zoning and pooling strategies, the system creates, sequences and dispatches work instructions that minimise equipment travel time and maximise equipment utilisation. Terminal staff run operations from a command centre that features Terminal

View, a three-dimensional live rendering of terminal activity that helps manage every aspect of the operation efficiently, safely and cost effectively.

Unlike other terminal visualisation tools that render the terminal using two-dimensional drawings, Terminal View is an 'immersive virtual world' in which personnel can control the operation visually and interactively. Users of Terminal View can pan from left to right, up and down and zoom in and out, to view equipment,

inventory, move status, vessels and trains. They can apply temporary colour coding to areas of the yard or container subsets to identify potential issues.

Users can also forecast the operation's status at different time intervals using a Look Ahead feature which, according to Robert Ahern, MIT's VP of Operations, "Provides a tremendously helpful picture of where the equipment and containers are, where the operation is going, and where it will ultimately end up."

"In addition to the resulting safety improvements stemming from removing clerks in small vehicles from the yard, the efficiency gains have been huge. We were able to add 160,000 container moves to our operation without needing to purchase additional lifting equipment or hire new workers," Ahern added.

According to Ahern, the savings have been especially helpful during recent tough economic times and as business begins to pick up, MIT is positioned to handle volume increases smoothly and cost effectively thanks to this innovative software. ■