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P&O WELCOMES CMA CGM AS NEW SHAREHOLDER IN ANTWERP

P&O is pleased to announce that a share purchase agreement has been signed with CMA CGM which will give them a 10% shareholding in P&O Ports' major new container terminal, Antwerp Gateway, in Belgium. P&O Ports will hold 42.5% of the shares, as before. P&O Nedlloyd and COSCO will each hold 20% (previously 25%) and Duisport 7.5%.

The announcement comes on the eve of the opening of the new terminal by the King of Belgium. Antwerp Gateway, which is located on the east side of the Deurganckdok in the Port of Antwerp, is expected to be fully completed in 2010. As previously announced, it will eventually have six berths, a quay line of 2,450 metres, a draft of 17 metres and an annual handling capacity in excess of 3.5 million teu. The total development cost is approximately €530 million.

P&O Ports has a 40 year concession for Antwerp Gateway. The first phase of the three phase development is opening on schedule tomorrow. It comprises 1,650 metres of quay line and an estimated capacity of 1.4 million teu.

Commenting on the announcement, Robert Woods, Chief Executive of P&O, said "We are pleased to welcome CMA CGM to Antwerp Gateway. Not only are they the world's fifth largest container line but they are an important contributor to container flows in Europe. This will further strengthen Antwerp's position as one of the world's leading container ports."

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Notes to editors:

1. Antwerp is already the third largest container port in Europe, handling 6 million teu in 2004. It is also one of the fastest growing ports in the region, with annual growth forecast to be around 8% until at least 2010.
2. P&O Ports is a leading global port operator. With 27 container terminals and logistics operations in over 100 ports it has a presence in 18 countries. In 2004 P&O Ports' total throughput worldwide was 13.8 million teus of which 1.3 million was generated in Antwerp. Total capacity at previous P&O terminals in Antwerp was 1.4 million teus.
3. CMA CGM is a large shipping group operating 182 vessels and linking 216 ports around the world. In 2004 it carried approximately 3.9 million teus which generated approximately €4.0 billion of turnover.
4. teu = twenty foot equivalent unit. This is the standard size of a container and is a common measure of capacity in the container industry.

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