SCCT prepares for Canal growth

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SCCT is poised for expansion

The Suez Canal Container Terminal (SCCT), located east of the northern entrance of the Suez Canal, is preparing for an even larger role in global trade as the result of the recently opened widening of the man-made waterway linking the Mediterranean and Red Seas. This is expected to boost traffic through the terminal.

To cope with the anticipated greater volume, four additional super-post-panamax ship-to-shore gantry cranes are scheduled for delivery to the terminal in mid-2016, taking SCCT's crane total to 24. This will increase the terminal's annual throughput capacity to 5.4 million teu, making it the largest container terminal in terms of capacity within the Mediterranean.

The new ship-to-shore cranes, representing an investment of US$ 42 million, will each have a 72 m outreach, and a height of 52m, allowing them to work the largest containerships afloat.

APM Terminals is the majority shareholder in SCCT, with a 55% ownership stake. Other shareholders include Chinese-based COSCO Pacific, with 20%, the Suez Canal Authority, with

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10.3%, and the National Bank of Egypt, with 5%. The remaining shares are held by the Egyptian private sector. Over US $800 million has been invested in the terminal, which opened in October 2004, and has become one of the busiest container facilities in the region, handling 3.5 million teu, primarily for transhipment, in 2014.

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