



DP WORLD SPONSORS GLOBAL LINER SHIPPING MIDDLE EAST CONFERENCE 2015

Dubai is the destination of choice for high level maritime focused events, says Sultan bin Sulayem

Dubai, United Arab Emirates, February 14, 2015:- DP World has welcomed the international delegations participating in the annual Middle East Global Liner Shipping Conference 2015 in Dubai. The two-day conference was attended by industry leaders, ship owners and maritime analysts from around the region and worldwide.

Commenting on the event, **His Excellency Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem, Chairman of DP World and Chairman of Ports, Customs and Free Zone Corporation**, said: "The Global Liner Shipping Conference is one of the array of global specialised conferences hosted in Dubai, making the city the destination of choice for high level maritime focused events from around the world.

"This kind of event is making Dubai a global and regional hub for trade and business as well as the travel and tourism industry and follows the strategic plans to promote the role of the sector in the Dubai economy, as outlined in the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Vice-President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai."

In a keynote speech to the conference, Mohammed Al Muallem, Senior Vice President and Managing Director, DP World, UAE Region, presented detail of the initiatives, automation and infrastructure DP World has put in place to improve productivity at Jebel Ali Port.

"For port operators to continue meeting customer needs and to add value to the supply chain, four key factors apply – the need for modern infrastructure, capacity, automation and multimodal transport capabilities," said Mr Al Muallem. "From our experience at Jebel Ali sustainability can only be achieved through innovation and superior performance that benefits customers," he added.

Referring to the decrease in the oil price, Mr Al Muallem, said, "On the back of the geopolitical situation around the world, the fall in oil prices, recession and slower growth risk some regions. Together with the rapid changing shipping industry, challenges will potentially impact the supply chain sector, and it is our call to make it positive."

According to industry commentators Alphaliner, the capacity of the global container fleet grew by 6.3% in 2014 to reach 18.37 million TEU. Another 7.8% growth is expected in 2015.

Esam Ahmed, from DP World, UAE Region Commercial team, also participated in a panel discussion during the conference organised by Informa.

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