

TPT launches SIE automation solution

Transnet Port Terminals (TPT) has launched its service instruction entry (SIE) automation system at Durban Ro-Ro Terminal. The solution has been a four-year project that is set to improve the speed at which the trading partners, TPT, and its customers will receive and exchange information into their systems, thereby greatly reducing end-to-end cycle times.

“The launch of TPT’s SIE automation with the first Toyota vessel being Guangzhou Highway at our Durban Ro-Ro Terminal was truly momentous. We did take precautions with this rollout by implementing a parallel run with the new automated process running concurrently with the current manual process. The current manual order process needed to continue in parallel during the initial project roll out to validate the new process and ensure a smooth transition. With the launch of the new SIE automation process being deemed a success, we are looking forward to rolling out this exciting innovation specifically designed for all stakeholders,” stated Amanda Siyengo, TPT general manager: KZN operations, bulk, break-bulk and cars.



With the SIE system having been created internally by TPT, IT support and further developments are all locally based and easy to access. The primary output of the investment made by TPT into creating this system is to reduce processing time from the current 72 hours to less than 24 hours, as well as extending vehicle delivery times to the terminal through document optimisation. Ultimately the system will also create fluidity and capacity facilitation in the port and enable customers to continue production and shipping as close to vessel sailing times as possible, while also gaining two more production days for OEMs that will result in more revenue being realised and saved by stakeholders.

Tangible savings estimated for customers is reportedly the reduction of their paper-based costs in compiling landing and shipping order submission decks by up to 75% as well as reducing the time and resources bringing the documentation to the finance counters. More importantly, the digital platform will, in the end, allow for reduced submission windows thus enabling shipping of larger export consignments and ultimately reduced logistics for OEMs and vehicle importers.



The future of African ports is also the future of Africa's economic success

Gilbert Saggia 20 Nov 2017



"Implementing the EDI protocol will improve operational efficiency at the automotive terminals, thereby contributing to the

realisation of the Transnet Commodity Strategy. One of the dominant strategic thrusts of Transnet is digital, and this SIE project is without a doubt creating great strides on the digital front and will change the face of the automotive industry as we know it", added Michelle Phillips, TPT general manager: commercial and national planning.

To facilitate SIE Automated processing from the shipping lines, an electronic submission of their current manifest is completed allowing verification of the EDI processing for the duration of the parallel run. The parallel run process is due to continue until all shipping lines have successfully completed all operations involving Toyota units and the SIE automation system is rolled out to every Durban OEM. In mid next 2018 TPT anticipates to smoothly roll out SIE to East London Car Terminal and thereafter Port Elizabeth Car Terminal.

For more, visit: <https://www.bizcommunity.com>