



Saldanha Multi-Purpose Terminal ahead of budget by 6%

[Cape Town – Tuesday, 05 March 2024] The Saldanha Multi-Purpose Terminal (MPT) has recorded a volume increase of 6,2% year-to-date, less than a month to the end of financial year. In February, the terminal also exceeded budgeted volumes by 9%, compared to a 3% decrease which was recorded over the same period in 2023.

The Saldanha MPT handles commodities such as bulk and breakbulk, amongst others. “Being a multi-purpose terminal means we are dynamic in our approach, and it is often required that our planning is adaptable in order to fulfil our performance obligations,” said Western Cape Region Acting Managing Executive Oscar Borchards.

Optimisation through several initiatives, which the Saldanha MPT embarked on this financial year (2023/24), contributed to improved performance on vessel stay/turnaround time, from an average of five to three days on some vessels. The initiatives include extending utilisation of critical equipment, such as the mobile ship loader. Saldanha MPT currently uses a hybrid loading method that deploys a mobile ship loader which is semi-automated and has been proven to work faster, together with skip operations, which are manual and compatible to the terminal’s operations.

“We have had to tap into the expertise of our industrial engineers who conducted time studies, which provided us with a solution on how we can shorten our loading time. While the solution currently works better on some vessels, depending on the type of commodity, it is our endeavour to continuously seek opportunities to improve our performance holistically,” said Borchards.

One of Saldanha MPT’s priorities is to continuously engage all stakeholders to ensure alignment. “Our main objective is to deliver on our promise; therefore, it is critical that we are inclusive and in close collaboration with our customers,” added Borchards.

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Notes to the Editor

The Saldanha Multi-Purpose Terminal forms part of a network of 19 Transnet Port Terminals (TPT). TPT is South Africa's leading terminal operator responsible for loading and offloading cargo aboard vessels calling the seven South African ports. Boasting a staff complement of over 9 000 across 16 sea-cargo terminals and three inland terminals, TPT's operations target four major market sectors namely: automotive, containers, bulk and break bulk. Current plans are focused on geographic expansion, service innovation and diversification aided by competitive approaches hinted by the fourth industrial revolution. For information, visit www.transnetportterminals.net

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