

News

28.11.17

Morgan Sindall delivers Port of Southampton's new Pacific Terminal ahead of schedule

A new vehicle export terminal, which is part of a £50 million investment by Associated British Ports (ABP) in the Port of Southampton, has been officially opened following the completion of a major expansion project.

The Pacific Terminal is the sixth multi-deck facility at the Port, and is one of two new car storage facilities recently completed by construction and infrastructure company Morgan Sindall.

The project was handed over three weeks ahead of schedule, while a seventh multi-deck storage facility, as yet un-named, was completed four weeks early with just seven weeks between each completion date. The projects were executed simultaneously and have a combined value of £24.5 million.

The facilities have created almost 10,000 additional spaces, ensuring that The Port of Southampton is the UK hub for automotive shipping by enabling leading British car manufacturers like Jaguar Land Rover to reach global marketplaces.

ABP is a major employer within Southampton docks, already the busiest port in the UK with almost one million vehicles passing through the port in 2017, an increase of almost 10 per cent from 2016.

Morgan Sindall has enjoyed an excellent working relationship with ABP since 2013, and has completed five projects in total with a combined value of £42.6 million.

Morgan Sindall's managing director for the South, Andy Duff, said: "The Port of Southampton is a key UK asset and we're proud to have formed such a successful relationship with ABP to deliver this strategic new terminal, building on its capability as a world-leading import and export hub.

"Working collaboratively with ABP and major car transporters at the dock, our team delivered on budget and ahead of schedule. This was a fitting way to end these key projects, the fourth and fifth schemes we have successfully delivered for ABP."

These schemes were completed to very high environmental standards. All excavated material on site was treated, re-used and recycled for use as aggregate elsewhere on the project. While 98 per cent of all other material used during construction was re-used or recycled during the project. There were a number of initial challenges in construction of both terminals, with the Pacific being built over an abandoned dry dock. While the site of the seventh multi-deck was targeted during World War Two, so the risk of unexploded ordinance was high.

At a ceremony attended by leaders in the automotive industry and civic dignitaries, the Minister of State for International Trade, the Rt Hon Greg Hands celebrated the milestone opening of the terminal, which will support a range of UK vehicle manufacturers.

Alastair Welch, ABP Southampton Director, said: "ABP has already invested more than £32m over the past five years to support the growth in vehicle exports. We continue to work closely with our customers to ensure that this growth can be sustained.

"The investment is testimony to the performance of the Port of Southampton and will help increase the port's vital contribution to the regional and national economy.

"Morgan Sindall has done well in completing these two new facilities and overcoming all the challenges the projects presented. We're delighted to have received these not only within budget, but also ahead of schedule."

James Cooper CEO of ABP said: "Southampton is the UK's number one port for exports, handling exports worth some £40 billion, and it is the UK's number one for vehicle exports.

"The port is a critical part of the supply chain for the British automotive industry, providing essential access to global markets. The opening of this terminal will build on this critical role and support our customers' drive to continue to grow their exports well into the future."

For more information about this news release please contact Ruth Cobban at Influential on 0151 239 5000 or email cobban@thisisinfluential.com