

CICT invests US\$ 10mn to reduce CO2 emissions in Colombo Port

With an initial capital expenditure of over US \$10 million, Colombo International Container Terminals Ltd., (CICT) has demonstrated their commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the Port of Colombo and the maritime industry as a whole.

Colombo International Container Terminals (CICT) is owned and managed by China Merchants Holdings International (CMHI), who is the world's second largest global terminal operator.

CICT the first and only deep-water terminal in the whole of South Asia, that is capable of handling the largest ultra- large-container –carriers afloat, with their super infrastructure and massive ship to shore gantry cranes, has now taken the initiative to provide leadership for the "greenport" concept, in the Port of Colombo.

This is an era where all industries are exploring possibilities of protecting nature and the environment. The initiative taken by CICT to reduce the emission of CO2 in the Port of Colombo will benefit the port industry as a whole.

This first step will be the driving force to give leadership to the Port of Colombo as the flag bearer in the South Asia region to focus on the reduction of green-housegases.

A spokesman for CICT said, " No doubt this development would send the signal to all stakeholders in the industry, the importance of paying attention to this critical factor and that we believe in working towards the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and care for the environment".

With the serious emphasis on addressing and reducing environmental damage on a continuous and sustainable basis in the maritime and port industry, CICT decided to make further significant capital investments in their contribution to reduce green



-house gases.

The new technology will convert the existing hybrid-diesel driven rubber tyred gantry cranes to operate on electricity from the national grid.

Based on the total container throughput handled at CICT during the year 2014, this initiative could bring in a significant reduction in CO2 emissions running into thousands of tons. The actual reduction is envisaged to be 45% of current emissions.

The Port of Colombo stands to benefit greatly from this initiative as it will be one of the first ports in south Asia to fast track the "green port" concept.

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