

Russian and CIS Ports – recent developments and investment opportunities

C5, London, UK

The Russian port industry is entering a period of rapid growth. Recently endorsed regulations have considerably improved conditions for investments. Due to increasing volumes of import-export operations, the Russian ports industry has become highly attractive for both domestic and international investors.

Representing important transport distributions centres, it plays a vital role in the increased international trade, thus facilitating economic progress of the country.

Trade routes

The explosive growth of container trade has created both challenges and opportunities for local terminal operators, sea carriers and all other business participants. Russian Far East ports are instrumental in the development of the Trans-Siberian Railway and its connection with the International Transit through Russian territory. The North East Route is a key transit corridor from North East Asia to Europe requiring the creation of huge port capacities in North regions. The Northern Sea Route has an enormous potential in becoming a primary link in the world's sea transport. Northwest Russia, to a growing extent, will realise its transport connections with Europe in the development of the Northern Maritime Corridor project.

Overall, Russia needs to expand its port capacity as well as to be able to exploit its neighbour's opportunities effectively. All of these will require huge investments from both Russian and foreign investors. Russian Government has adopted various target programmes and state strategies as well as the recent regulatory changes, which will boost investments into the industry.

Third International Investment Forum on Russian and CIS Ports

Following the huge success and positive feedback of the very first event in St Petersburg, C5 is pleased to host the Third International Investment Forum on Russian and CIS Ports in St Petersburg again, March 30 – 31st 2009. The conference programme ensures delegates an invaluable learning opportunity from an exceptional line-up of speakers. Examining the challenges associated with developing and financing the Russian and CIS Ports Industry, especially in this turbulent investment climate, the conference will again cover key topics, issues and trends facing the port investment and finance market.

ABOUT THE COMPANY

For over 10 years, events produced by C5 (formerly Euroforum) have provided the business intelligence that corporate decision-makers need to respond to challenges and opportunities around the world. A unique organisation, C5 is staffed by industry and country specialists; lawyers and other professionals. They operate as a think tank, monitoring trends and developments in all major industry sectors, the law, and emerging markets, with a view to providing up to date and comprehensive business information. Based in London, C5 holds conferences

Amongst the topics to be discussed are:

- The Russian Government policy on sea port industry: new regulatory initiatives, recent changes in investment programmes and strategies for attracting both domestic and foreign investment flow into the industry. Assessing its practical implications on local port operators and sea carriers
- The barriers in the introduction of modern navigation system for sea vessels for the safety purposes
- Determining the key funding issues in financing ports and terminals: the most recent debt financing tools, leasing instruments and long-term investment opportunities
- The overview of the private sector investment in ports
- The impact of the credit crisis on the investment climate and capital flow into the Russian Port Industry
- Does Port Special Economic Zones (PSEZ) look sufficiently effective in practice: are there any unsettled problems and defects despite the considerable tax incentives?
- Recent challenges of building new capacity in existing port terminals
- The future projects in redevelopment of port facilities with the main focus on newly-opened grain terminals
- The priorities and opportunities of global rivals in the Russian market and the benefits it creates for local players
- Modernisation and expansion of congested container and Ro-Ro terminals in Baltic ports: necessary solutions to overcome the challenge
- Development of railway infrastructure in the Port Zones
- Uneven loading of trains and irrational distribution of freight flows: the practical impact on transport operators; possible solutions
- Role and development Trends of Novorossiysk's Port as a number one gateway in the Black Sea Region for offering an alternative supply chain; newly-opened/highly improved grain terminal
- New trends in green field investment: an alternative to mergers and acquisitions?
- The favourable geographical location of Murmansk port: pros and cons for cargo owners
- Regional development and redevelopment of bulk-oil and gas terminals (Port Vostochnei).

across Europe and has grown to produce over 90 events a year, attended by thousands of senior delegates from all over the world.

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