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Port of Tauranga Launches CargoConnect

New Zealand's first comprehensive online cargo management system, CargoConnect, is being launched today by Port of Tauranga.

Shipping companies, importers, exporters and border agencies alike can now access a single web-based system to manage all of their cargo movements and information transfer to and from the Port's container terminal at Sulphur Point. The automated system has been developed in conjunction with e-commerce specialists The ECN Group.

Port of Tauranga says CargoConnect will bring immediate productivity gains for its customers. Cargo documentation can be automatically updated with accurate details, potentially delivering unprecedented efficiencies.

The secure platform enables a variety of functions to be completed online, including:

- Automated carters' note generation and pre-advice of cargo arrival
- Automated data verification, discrepancy reporting and online container reconciliation
- Vessel, customer and pack point-specific data warehousing
- Detailed report generation
- Container auditing
- Reefer-specific functions and automated checks of time off-power (including non-compliance notification)
- Hazardous goods-specific functions, including automated documentation
- Empty container releases and depot return advice
- Automated Customs clearance warnings.

CargoConnect is also compatible with direct "system to system" data transfer (B2B).

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, one of the first users of the system during its trial phase, is using it for container release and inspection purposes.





Port of Tauranga Commercial Manager, Graeme Marshall, says CargoConnect provides a significant advance in cargo management and reduces risk in the supply chain by removing opportunities for error and further streamlines the flow of cargo at the container terminal.

“Users can log in from anywhere, any time and get all the information they need – what cargo is in the terminal, what’s being loaded on to a vessel, any discrepancies in the information or processes – by directly interacting with the terminal’s own operating system via the Internet,” he says.

“For example, the system can automatically calculate the amount of time that a refrigerated container can be off power and when it needs to be reconnected. If the off-power time has been exceeded by the time it reaches the terminal the shipper will be automatically advised,” says Graeme. The system also provides for a multitude of data and reports to be downloaded on to customers’ own IT systems by creating csv files.

“We’re constantly striving to enhance productivity for the port and our customers and we saw a way of streamlining processes in a user-friendly way,” says Graeme. “This system will save exporters, importers and shipping lines considerable time and money.”

Port of Tauranga customers wanting to register for CargoConnect can obtain a user name and password by:

Online: <http://www.cargo-connect.co.nz/>

CargoConnect Helpdesk: (07) 546 9654

E-mail: cargoconnect@port-tauranga.co.nz

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