

The Container Ship *WEC Van Ruysdael* Opens Up a New Shortsea Shipping Service out of Montoir

As of mid-September, shipping line WEC Lines has incorporated Montoir de Bretagne in its Northern Europe – Southern Europe maritime logistics plan. The inaugural port call took place on Tuesday, 10th October 2023, in the presence of representatives of Greater Western France industrial firms that are users of this shipping service, and of representatives of the Shipping Line.

Since mid-September, several of Greater Western France's companies in the agri-food, industrial, building and civil engineering and clothing sectors have been able to benefit from a new shortsea shipping service for the importation or exportation of their goods, via the Montoir de Bretagne general cargo and container terminal operated by Terminal du Grand Ouest (TGO). The call by the container ship *Wec Van Ruysdael* officially launches this new service, which offers its users a concrete alternative to road haulage, enabling them to optimize their transport costs and to reduce the environmental impact of their supply chain.



In the beginning, a Portuguese firm expresses the desire to move over from road to sea for their exports to the French market, notably in Western France; Montoir de Bretagne is ideally located for this purpose. The plans for the new service are consolidated thanks to a collaboration between Nantes – Saint Nazaire Port's team and the network of a transport organizer of international standing, drawing on the findings of a marketing survey carried out across Greater Western France and serving to attract additional export throughput.

Two Vessels per Week

Two vessels with a capacity of 800 TEUs will be calling every week at the Port of Nantes – Saint Nazaire. The first will be arriving from Morocco, Portugal and Spain, and the second from Northern Europe, namely from the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Belgium.

The service operated by WEC Lines will also offer transshipment solutions to Scandinavia and the Baltic States.

About...

WEC Lines

A Dutch shipping line, WEC Lines specializes in all types of seafreight that can be carried in containers, whether in oceangoing or in shortsea mode. With more than 43 years of experience and an extensive network of offices and agents, WEC Lines has the detailed expertise for all types of cargo, including a familiarity with customs clearance formalities, and local laws and regulations.

Nantes – Saint Nazaire Port

An industrial tool for economic growth and a regional planner and developer, Nantes – Saint Nazaire Port works in partnership with the Regional Community's public- and private-sector stakeholders to enhance the Loire Estuary on an economic level and on an environmental level. It forms a strategic interface between land and sea, receiving nearly 3 000 calls by merchant vessels each year, and acts as a real international hub for industrial and logistical operations. The activities at the Port of Nantes – Saint Nazaire generate 28 500 jobs at around 500 establishments forming a single industrial and port complex (2022 study based on 2018 data conducted by INSEE, the French National Institute of Economic and Statistical Information). The Port owns a Port Authority area covering 2 722 hectares, of which 1 545 hectares are developed port, logistical and industrial zones, and 1 177 hectares are reserved natural spaces. A gateway on France's Atlantic Seaboard, Nantes – Saint Nazaire Port is ideally positioned when it comes to importing or exporting containerized cargo. A scheduled shipping service provision, whether via direct liner services or through feeder services to the main transshipment hubs in Europe and Africa, links the general cargo and container terminal operated by TGO (Terminal du Grand Ouest) to ports worldwide.