

# Cape Town container terminal on schedule

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Giving a progress report on developments at Cape Town harbour's container terminal, Transnet says the R5.6 billion five-year refurbishment is on schedule, with 16 rubber-tyred gantries (RTGs) already phased in and another 16 due to arrive in the second half of this year.

Under its reconfiguration programme on the long quay, the container-stacking yard is being converted from a straddle carrier operation.

According to Moshe Motlohi, Cape Town terminal executive, "The strategic advantage of the RTG is dense stacking - six rows wide, five containers high and 30 deep - thereby providing better utilisation of space."

The road equipment replacement programme has also achieved further milestones with the introduction of 60 cornerless bathtub trailers to the terminal, all of which are currently operational.

Meanwhile a busy training programme is beginning to produce the required operators for the new equipment.

To date 69 operators for lifting equipment have been trained and signed off as competent - 43 on Liebherr twin lift cranes and 26 on Kalmar RTG's.

The programme lasts until September, by which time a total of 83 RTG operators will have been trained.

The five-year expansion programme kicked off in January 2007 and is expected to be completed in 2012.

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