



**PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE USE**

## **MACANDREWS ADDS EXTRA LIVERPOOL SERVICE FROM SPAIN**

Short-sea operator MacAndrews is to call four times per week at the Port of Liverpool instead of three, having added a fourth vessel to its Bilbao service.

As part of the upgrade, MacAndrews' new Loop vessel, the 'Flintercape', will also make Liverpool its first call after departing from Bilbao as of Thursday 13 November, providing a strong platform for container deliveries throughout the week. MacAndrews will offer four departures per week from Bilbao arriving in Liverpool on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Patrick Walters, Group Commercial Director of Peel Ports, said: "This is a very good result for us, with one of our long term customers expanding its services, and we're grateful to MacAndrews for continuing to place its faith in the Port of Liverpool as a reliable and cooperative partner in its growing operations. It's this clear shift of logistics and distribution patterns towards the nearest port to market that underscores the reasons why we are investing £300 million in our new Liverpool2 container terminal. This will allow us to handle the largest current globally operated container vessels, bringing UK distribution cargo closer to its destination."

Geoff Smith, Managing Director of MacAndrews, said: "The Port of Liverpool provides a strong link in the UK consumer supply chain, and is an increasingly important entry port for refrigerated container movements of fresh produce to supermarket distributors. In addition to the growing volumes of general containerised cargo, it is this increasing sector of the market from Southern Spain into the northern half of the UK which is driving the expansion of MacAndrews' services into the port."

This is the second recent expansion in services via Liverpool, with Metro Shipping confirming last week that it had relocated some services on behalf of Beneficial Cargo Owners, including retailers shipping goods from the Far East, from southern ports to Liverpool. The move was in response to increasing costs and delays resulting from traffic congestion and driver demand in the south.

MacAndrews is a provider of ocean and land transportation services, specialising in 45' High Cube Pallet Wide containers, serving niche, core geographical sectors of the UK and Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Holland, Poland, Scandinavia, and Russia. It

employs over 200 staff and has a container fleet in excess of 9,000 TEUs in a wide array of sizes and configurations, with particular emphasis on the short-sea, Intra-European multimodal market. MacAndrews is part of the CMA CGM Group, the world's third largest container shipping company.

The Port of Liverpool currently handles a diverse range of cargo, including bulk solids and liquids, RORO and containers. In 2012 it was named by leading industry journal Containerisation International as Port Authority of the Year in recognition of its progressive and innovative approach 'beyond the port gates'.

**Ends**

**13 November 2014**

## **MEDIA INFORMATION**

### **Contact:**

Stewart Argo or Jenna Ciancia at Weber Shandwick on +44 (0) 131 556 6649 / [sargo@webershandwick.com](mailto:sargo@webershandwick.com) / [jciancia@webershandwick.com](mailto:jciancia@webershandwick.com)

### **Notes to Editor:**

#### **About Liverpool2**

Liverpool2 will allow global shippers 'ship-to-door' access to the UK's major import centres via the most economic and lowest carbon route and provide northern UK-based exporters with a more competitive route to market. It is the UK's largest transatlantic port and will be Europe's first semi-automated CRMG container terminal.

The £300m construction programme comprises a new quay wall, dredging of a new 16.5m deep berthing pocket, installation of ship-to-shore quay cranes and modern cantilever rail mounted gantry cranes (CRMGs), and associated supporting infrastructure works.

[www.liverpool2.com](http://www.liverpool2.com)

#### **About Peel Ports and the Peel Group**

Peel Ports is one of the UK's largest port groups, owning and operating seven of the UK and Ireland's most important ports. It handles 70 million tonnes of cargo every year. It is headquartered in Liverpool and employs around 1200 staff.

Peel Ports is part of the Peel Group, one of the UK's leading infrastructure, real estate and investment companies. Its portfolio ranges from airports to energy, and includes flagship sites such as MediaCityUK, Manchester's Trafford Centre and Pinewood Studios.

[www.peelports.co.uk/](http://www.peelports.co.uk/)