



## **PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE USE**

18 April 2018

### **London Thamesport Boosts Short Sea Capacity**

Dutch-based transport company A2B-online Container B.V. has added a fourth weekly sailing on its service between Hutchison Ports London Thamesport and Moerdijk in The Netherlands.

The new sailing is inaugurated today (18 April 2018) by the first call of the m.s. *A2B Spirit* (ex-*Norfeeder*), a Sietas 151 type 508 TEU container ship, the fourth of this class owned and operated by A2B.

Commenting on the new sailing, Clemence Cheng, Executive Director Hutchison Ports, said:

“London Thamesport offers its customers a service tailored to their specific demands. We are seeing a growing demand in the short-sea container market as a response to increasing labour shortages in the driver-accompanied market and uncertainty around Brexit. We are delighted that, working closely with our partners at A2B-online, we are able to help them grow their business by providing a highly efficient service and direct access to key South East markets.”

Gerard de Groot, Managing Director of A2B-online, said:

“With all the initiatives we have developed to offer first-class customer service, volume is still increasing despite talks regarding Brexit. We have spare capacity to adjust more sailings to London Thamesport if and when required.”

Bart van 't Hof, Group Sales Director A2B-online, added:

“If it is decided to go for a hard Brexit more volume is expected to be routed from Moerdijk to London Thamesport. This because of customs procedures that may apply that will have a considerably (negative) effect on the supply chain for goods arriving the UK accompanied by either Channel Tunnel and/or Dover by ferry.”

A2B-online Container B.V. is a multi-modal short-sea operator specialising in full load, part load and pallet consignments to and from the United Kingdom, Benelux and Germany. It offers reliable short sea services from the port of Moerdijk including a door-to-door service with its own fleet of 1,400 45ft containers.

END

### **Note to Editors:**

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Hutchison Ports London Thamesport is located on River Medway near London, in the heart of South East England, 35 miles from Central London. The terminal provides road and rail links to the UK's important manufacturing and distribution centres and is ideally positioned to serve as a port of entry for UK-bound short-sea container traffic as well as infrastructure projects around London.

Hutchison Ports London Thamesport is a member of Hutchison Ports, the port and related services division of CK Hutchison Holdings Limited (CK Hutchison). Hutchison Ports is the world's leading port investor, developer and operator with a network of port operations in 52 ports spanning 26 countries throughout Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Europe, the Americas and Australasia. Over the years, Hutchison Ports has expanded into other logistics and transportation-related businesses, including cruise ship terminals, airport operations, distribution centres, rail services and ship repair facilities.

Best regards

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