

Press release

Le Havre, 16 December 2020

A new COSCO SHIPPING service

A direct connection between the Port of Le Havre and Russia and Finland

COSCO SHIPPING – the number 1 Chinese shipping line and third largest worldwide – has recently included Le Havre in its shortsea RFS4 schedule serving Russia and Finland every week.

This Wednesday 16 December the container ship Mv NAVI BALTIC made its first call at the port, at the Terminal de France, making HAROPA – Le Havre Port central to its RFS4 shortsea service. This service was put in place by COSCO SHIPPING in conjunction with its shortsea-dedicated subsidiary Diamond Line, and it now connects the Normandy port directly with Russia (port of Saint-Petersburg/Bronka) and Finland (Kotka port).

Starting on this date, a rotation will therefore involve two *Ice Class 1 AS* vessels, a class representing the highest ice certification. These ships carry all types of container (20-feet, 40-feet, Hi-Cube + SOC) and have over 300 reefer points on board. This service is made possible by particularly competitive export & import transit times: for exports, Le Havre can in fact reach Saint-Petersburg in four days and Kotka in five; for imports, Kotka to Le Havre takes four days.



The Mv NAVI BALTIC made its first call at the port on 16 December at the Terminal de France

“We are pleased that COSCO SHIPPING has chosen to make HAROPA – Port of Le Havre the departure point for this rotation. With this new service we are continuing to expand our shortsea shipping offering to a region with great potential.” **Laurent FOLOPPE, Director, HAROPA Sales & Marketing.**

“With this new service, COSCO SHIPPING is continuing to develop its intra-Europe service network which is expanding strongly, rounding out the complete range of services we can offer our customers.” **Gilles P. BRAESCH, Sales Director, Cosco Shipping France**

COSCO SHIPPING is a longstanding partner of HAROPA, offering 11 weekly services for transport solutions from and to most continents.

About Cosco Shipping: As the third-ranking global line, Cosco Shipping Line has a presence in Asia, Europe, North and South America, the Middle East and Africa, enabling it to provide a complete service offering to customers. www.lines.coscoshipping.com

About HAROPA: HAROPA, the 5th largest port complex in Northern Europe, is a joint venture between the ports of Le Havre, Rouen and Paris. It is connected to every continent owing to a first-rate international shipping offer (linking around 700 ports worldwide). It serves a vast hinterland the centre of which is in the Seine valley and the Paris region forming the biggest French consumer market area. With around 10 Normandy and Paris area partner ports, HAROPA now forms in France a global transport and logistics system, capable of providing a comprehensive end-to-end service. HAROPA handles over 120 million tons of cargo by sea and waterway each year. HAROPA business represents 160,000 jobs. www.haropaports.com

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