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Dear Garvan,

Welcome to the **October** edition of Irish Freight & Logistics Monthly. You have been included within our mailing list because we consider you to be a valuable contributor to the industry.

We hope you enjoy the newsletter and will strive to enhance it, so please send any feedback and suggestions to editor@logiskills.ie

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IEA Launch Code of Good Distribution Practice for Life Science Products



The Code of Good Distribution Practice for Life Sciences Products, the first of its kind in Europe and designed to ensure Ireland stays a preferred location for Life Sciences companies, was launched recently at a reception in Dublin.

Launching this initiative of the Irish Exporters Association, Mr. John Whelan, the Association's Chief Executive, said the World Health Organisation at the beginning of 2008 indicated that the internationalisation of pharmaceutical production and the wide availability counterfeit drugs had created the need for good distribution practice, to ensure patient safety.

The IEA since 2007 has been working with the Irish Life Sciences manufacturers, the Irish Medicines Board and the logistics companies servicing the market, to develop a voluntary Code of Good Distribution Practice for the sector. This GDP Code of practice with its compliance certified courses is the outcome of this collaborative work. It is the first of its kind in Europe and will help ensure that Ireland remains in the forefront of preferred locations for FDI in the pharmaceutical and medical devices sector.

Logistics companies who want to find out more about the Life Sciences Ireland GDP Passport should contact Life Sciences Ireland at the Irish Exporters Association in Dublin. Full details are available at <http://www.irishexporters.ie/> or e-mail lifesciences@irishexporters.org

TALS Confirm Launch of Direct Belfast - North American Route



An American company is planning to launch the first direct ocean freight service between Belfast, Montreal and Baltimore next month. Trans Atlantic Liner Services (TALS) intends to start the new route that could reduce transatlantic journey times by up to seven days.

All shipbound exports from Northern Ireland to North America currently have to be transported to larger ports in Britain and northern Europe. The service would initially operate once a month. Peter Bouwhuis, president of TALS, said: "This new service will provide the only direct ocean freight link to the island's biggest markets outside the European Union. Delays and costs incurred by indirect shipping routes via Great Britain ports and continental Europe have put local companies at a competitive disadvantage."

The firm signed a partner/ service agreement with BBC-Chartering, which operates more than 140 multi-purpose freight vessels. TALS has opened an office in Belfast.

Management at Belfast Harbour have welcomed the company's decision to commit to the service. Roy Adair, chief executive officer of Belfast Harbour, said: "The prospect of Belfast hosting the island's only direct freight service to North America is something which we have been trying to facilitate for several years."

Seatruck Ferries Add Vessel to Dublin-Liverpool Service



Seatruck Ferries has added the Clipper Pennant to its Dublin-Liverpool service as reported by the IFW.

Clipper Pennant, which will operate the service with sister ship Clipper Pace, has doubled the freight capacity of the vessel it replaced.

Seatruck said the route had already seen 15% increase in traffic this year. MD Alistair Eagles said: "Our volumes are growing as more Irish Sea traffic switches to our unaccompanied freight-only model.

"By using our routes, which are closer to the origin and destination of the goods, operators can also

save significant road miles when compared with the more traditional short sea options."

Kuehne + Nagel Is Only Logistics Provider Among the 25 "Worlds Best Companies"



Kuehne + Nagel has successfully defended its 23rd place in the second yearly ranking of the world's 2,500 largest publicly-listed companies by the management consulting firm A.T. Kearney.

On behalf of Business Week magazine, A.T. Kearney ranked companies with a minimum turnover of 10 billion dollars (of which at least one quarter must come from outside the company's home region) according to their sales growth and compound annual growth rate (CAGR) or value creation over the last five years. Further criteria were commitment to innovation and expansion, portfolio diversification, strong management leadership and clear vision for the future.

As the only logistics service provider and - together with ABB - as the only Swiss-based company, Kuehne + Nagel was ranked among the best 25. Further to this, the study counts Kuehne + Nagel among those seven companies who "in particular have proven by their success that they are not one-time wonders [and] have been able to defend their status as Global Champions. [...] The consistently strong performance of these seven companies is a testament to the strength of their corporate strategies and the resilience of their business model."

Freight Index Suggests Confidence is Growth



Danske Bank has released the results of its September European Freight Forwarding Index. The bank said that the survey of 152 participants was highly positive, indicating that volumes were picking up.

Danske Bank's freight forwarding index rose from 50 last month to 65 this month. Expectations of future growth had fallen slightly from 78 to 75, but were still at a very high level, indicating that freight forwarders expect volumes to further improve during Q4 2009.

The bank said that it saw a broad-based recovery in volumes across countries and segments. Looking at the various countries it saw the strongest development in Eastern Europe (index 37 to 65) and UK (56 to 73). Looking at the various segments, the development was most significant among the freight forwarders active within Airfreight (index 40 to 71).

Danske Bank believes that the freight market will remain strong during Q4 2009 and it sees the next critical period coming during the first half of 2010 when the current inventory cycle comes to an end and further improvement in freight volumes will have to be driven by a pick-up in the underlying economy.

Global Manufacturing Recovering as Baltic Index Climbs Further



The Baltic Exchange's main sea freight index rose to a two-and-half month high on October 23, helped by fresh cargo activities in Brazil and Australia, Exim News Service reports.

The overall index, which gauges the cost of shipping resources, including iron ore, cement, grain, coal and fertiliser, rose by 1.4 per cent or 42 points to 3,043 points in a seventh session of gains and was at its highest since August 5.

Brokers said that firmer demand to lease ships in the Atlantic had helped in the rise of the index, adding that the interest had given a lift to rates for Capesize vessels typically hauling coal and iron ore cargoes.

In recent weeks, there had been increased demand for iron ore in Europe, South Korea, Japan and Taiwan. Chinese iron ore and coal imports were also picking up, brokers and analysts pointed out.

The main sea freight index hit a more than eight-month high on June 3 of 4,291, but has been erratic since then.

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Sincerely,

The Logiskills Team