

German ports gear up for influx of Maersk Triple-E mega vessels

The German ports of Hamburg and Wilhemshaven are gearing up for the influx of larger vessels, with both ports pushing ahead with restructuring projects. With orders of 18,000 TEU ships on the rise, the two ports are investing heavily on port infrastructure to enable megaships to call at their respective ports.

Speaking at the Coastlink 2011 conference in Hamburg, Port Authority, Managing Director, Wolfgang Hurtienne, announced that the port had begun and was completing a number of projects designed to help the port cope with larger capacity ships, according to IFW. "The terminal [Burchardkai] will be upgraded with new twin-lift container cranes and fully automatic stacking blocks, where boxes can be stacked five high," said Mr Hurtienne.