

RoRo Port and Terminal solutions

Linkspan to suit any size of ferry



ROSSLARE FERRY PORT, IRELAND



Built to cater for local tidal conditions and a variety of ships' thresholds, Rosslare's 30m-long tailormade MacGregor linkspan is extremely big for an articulated ramp; the seaward ramp interface has an impressive width of 34m and the ramp is 20m wide at the shoreside end

Operational availability, redundancy thinking and the Machinery Directive has brought about the most significant changes in linkspan technology in recent years; Cargotec incorporates this matured technology in all of its linkspan deliveries, which are recognised, appreciated and accepted by competent bodies and authorities.

Tailormade MacGregor linkspan to suit any size of ferry

In 2009 BAM Contractors in Ireland called for Cargotec to supply a replacement linkspan for the Rosslare Europort, which is owned by Irish Rail. The new facility, located in ferry berth No 2, will improve operating logistics for any size of conventional and future RoRo ferry and is attracting major ferry operators from UK, France and the Benelux countries.

Client: BAM Contractors, Ireland (for Irish Rail)

- Linkspan: 34m/20m x 30m
- Completed in 2009
- Turnkey supply (design, fabrication and installation)
- Certified and built to British Standard (BS) and Lloyd's Register (LR) classification requirements
- Independent of tidal variations and ship's trim

The solution

Irish Rail had set particular conditions as to the safety of machinery and the integrity of the overall facility. First of all, the hydraulically-operated linkspan is extremely big for an articulated ramp; it has a seaward ramp interface of 34m in width and is 20m-wide at the shoreside end. It is 30m long to cater for the tidal conditions at the site, as well as most vessel's thresholds.

There are also fender systems installed at both ends of the ramp: a small front fender to reduce the likelihood of local



structural impact damage, and large energy-absorbing fenders at the shoreside end of the ramp. These are designed to ensure the continuous operability and integrity of the entire linkspan and its machinery, even in the event of an emergency impact by vessels with displacements up to 23,000 tonnes.

The hoisting hydraulic machinery consists of three cylinders installed in parallel at each side of the linkspan. Each cylinder is equipped with approved load holding valves and positioning sensors to control the motion of the overall facility. Thus, the system has full redundancy and unrestricted operability in the event of one cylinder failing on either side.

Cargotec improves the efficiency of cargo flows on land and at sea - wherever cargo is on the move. Cargotec's daughter brands, Hiab, Kalmar and MacGregor are recognised leaders in cargo and load handling solutions around the world.

MacGregor is the global market-leading brand in marine cargo handling and offshore load-handling solutions. Customer-driven MacGregor engineering and service solutions for the maritime transportation industry and the offshore load-handling and naval logistics markets are used on board merchant ships, offshore support vessels, and in ports and terminals.

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