



QF News

ISSUE EIGHT
THE NEWSLETTER OF QUALITY FREIGHT GROUP

NEW RECRUITS COME ON BOARD

The successful 2011 has also brought job creation and promotions at Quality Freight.

Three new recruits have joined in Ireland. Andrew Robb has been recruited as operations coordinator in Belfast, Carolyn McDermott has joined as accounts assistant in Dublin, while Sinead Coyne is a new operations assistant, also in Dublin.

Meanwhile, at Ellesmere Port, James Cowley has been promoted within the company's Agency department, while Ben Johnson has moved across from Agency to Chartering. Both James and Ben will be taking their Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers' exams during 2012.

Colin Boncer has joined the company as a ships agent, along with two new dock operatives.

The Agency department, led by Rod Kloezeman, has had a busy few months, spreading its wings by managing vessels in the ports of Glasgow and Hull.

Trevor Dumbleton, Quality Freight Group MD, said: "These new appointments and promotions are part of our overall strategy of investing in and continually developing the QF Group team."



CUSTOMS SERVICE RETURNS

Following recent systems upgrades and investment, Quality Freight UK is again able to offer Import and Export Clearance Services for all UK ports and airports as part of the general freight forwarding portfolio. This includes ICS and ENS declarations – obligatory from 2011 – on vessels arriving and departing through UK ports.

QF gets cultural (Part 2)



Readers may recall that QF UK's forwarding division was recently given the delicate task of moving Leporello's Lady, a bronze statue by well known artist Philip Jackson, from Madrid to Christie's in London.

Following that success, we have been engaged on a number of further occasions to move various works of art, most notably by the renowned British artist Roger Colson who needed our help transporting a painting he had donated to a charity auction taking place in Moscow.

On this occasion, the most suitable mode of transport was by air – appropriate given Roger's former career as a British Airways pilot – an area Quality Freight is actively developing.

To find out more about Roger's work, visit www.rogercolson.com



Quality Freight docks in Rotterdam

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Project Cargo
From machinery to beer the Cargo team deliver

Record tonnage
EP tonnage breaks previous record

New recruits
2011 success brings job boost



www.qualityfreight.com

HOW TO CONTACT US

DUBLIN

Port Centre
Alexandra Road
Dublin 1

Tel: (+353) 1 836 6233
Fax: (+353) 1 836 6061

ELLESMERE PORT

Manisty Wharf
Ellesmere Port
CH65 1AF

Tel: (0151) 355 6006
Fax: (0151) 355 3273

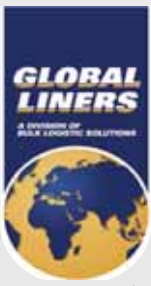
Email: info@qualityfreight.com
Web: www.qualityfreight.com

For our other offices please refer to our website.

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Quality Freight Docks in Rotterdam

Quality Freight Group has launched a major operation at the Port of Rotterdam – the largest hub in Europe and one of the biggest anywhere in the world.



Rotterdam is a vital access route for the majority of freight heading to and from Britain, Ireland and other parts of the world. The move into the Port of Rotterdam follows daughter company BLS International's Netherlands subsidiary BLS BV taking over the business of Global Liners BV in October last year.

Led by QF Group's Dublin office, the decision was taken to relocate Global Liners from its small local facility to the Port of Rotterdam base at Hoogvliet of its existing Dutch partner, Neele Logistics.

Newly appointed Operations Director Colin Dumbleton said: "We already work closely with Neele on many lanes using Rotterdam as the transhipment point. They operate daily services across mainland Europe, Iberia, Scandinavia and Eastern Europe with offices in Romania and Russia."

"Relocating Global Liners' operations to the main port was a natural progression given our strong links with Neele."

The acquisition gives BLS direct access to highly skilled and tested producers of bespoke liner bags for its own fleet, deepsea and other commercial requirements.

The deal also adds Flexitanks - the ultimate transport solution for liquid products in containers - to the BLS range.

Maarten van der Kleij, the founder of Global Liners, and his staff have joined forces with the BLS team at the new Hoogvliet facility.

The combined offices and warehouse will allow BLS International's food (BLS Food) and chemical (BLS Chemical) divisions to pool technical, commercial and operational staffing together with Global Liners.

Marco van Sintmaartensdijk becomes a Director of BLS BV, trading as Global Liners, while Paul Molenaar takes up the position of Commercial Director.



BLS continues to invest

BLS International also continues to invest in cutting edge equipment to ensure the best possible service for its rapidly growing customer base. BLS Food has taken delivery of 100 20ft specialised bulk units – a commitment of more than 5.5million Euro to its bulk food fleet. The company has also made a further investment with a significant capital investment in eight tipping chassis.



EP's RECORD BREAKING YEAR

Quality Freight UK's Ellesmere Port operation enhanced its credentials as a multi-modal port during 2011.

Ellesmere Port saw more than 800,000 tons come through the port during 2011 – beating all previous records. Two key link-ups with Peel Ports have also demonstrated promising early signs.

The reopening of an historic rail head 20 years after it closed has proved an immediate hit with between two and three trains a week arriving at the port.

Meanwhile, the Peel barge continues to be busy with up to 16 containers a week now making the journey from Seaforth to Ellesmere Port.

"We are pleased to have achieved a record year for tonnage through the port given the continuing tough economic conditions."
 "It has also been satisfying to see how well both the train link and barge service have done in a relatively short period of time."
 "Both initiatives have come about because of the close working relationship, investment and determination of Peel Ports in partnership with Quality Freight."
 Sebastian Gardiner, Quality Freight UK MD



THIRSTY WORK FOR PROJECT CARGO TEAM

Quality Freight Group has been kept busy with a number of eye-catching project cargo jobs.

The Dublin team, headed by Colin Dumbleton, had to swing quickly into action after being alerted that the Oktoberfest Dublin was running low on the famous German beer Erdinger.

With no time to spare, QF organised for fresh supplies to be moved intermodally from Erding to Dublin in just five days – rather than the usual 10 day transit.

Other projects included the handling of transformers destined for India which made full use of the specialist heavy lifting berth at

Ellesmere Port, while the Dublin office took charge of the movement of a large canopy for a major festival in the city.

Another notable success just before Christmas saw QF bring together heavy tractors, low-loading and flat-bed equipment to transport a complex piece of machinery used in the cement industry from Ellesmere Port to Royal Portbury in Bristol. From there, the machine was transferred to specialist Mafi trailers for loading on to a roll off vessel and transportation to the end user site in Israel.



OPERATION ROCK SALT

Ellesmere Port's rock salt operation now keeps the QF team busy throughout the year.

During the past couple of harsh winters, the port has established itself as a key line of defence in keeping Britain's motorists on the move.

The company has set up a dedicated bagging facility at Ellesmere Port. A shipment of rock salt from Alexandria in Egypt to the port at the end of November brought in 12,000 tons of salt – enough to create over a million bags of salt.

When the salt arrived, QF's experienced team swung into action unloading at a rate of 500 tons an hour with a power shovel moving the salt to the hoppers of the two onsite bagging machines.

