

OOCL to sell State of the art Container Terminal

OOCL has agreed to sell its state-of-the-art Long Beach Container Terminal (LBCT) to a group of institutional investors led by Australia's Macquarie Infrastructure Partners (MIP) for \$1.78bn – less than the reported \$2bn it cost to build.

The sale is the final condition for Cosco's takeover of OOCL: last year, the US departments of Homeland Security and Justice decreed the terminal must be divested from the Cosco/OOCL portfolio for the purchase to win government approval.

As part of the agreement, OOCL has entered into a 20-year stevedoring and terminal services agreement with LBCT that will see the facility continue to serve Ocean Alliance transpacific calls.

Andy Tung, co-chief executive of OOCL, said: "Over the past 30 years, we have developed Long Beach Container Terminal into the safest, most efficient and lowest-emission terminal in the United States.

"We are confident of its future prospects under the ownership of MIP and its co-investors, and we look forward to being a long-term strategic customer."

The deal will see MIP expand its portfolio of box terminals – it is currently invested in Maher Terminal, NYK Ports and Penn Terminals in the US; Pusan New Port in South Korea; and terminals in Nanjing and Tianjin in China, recently [exiting the Polish terminal of DCT Gdansk](#).

MIP chief executive Karl Kuchel said: "We are pleased to acquire LBCT, a premier terminal in the largest port complex in North America, a gateway for transpacific trade. This transaction marks another key milestone in our relationship with OOIL and we greatly appreciate their significant long-term customer commitment to LBCT.

"We look forward to partnering with the port of Long Beach and the management team to ensure that LBCT delivers high-quality service to OOCL and our other customers.

"We are also committed to completing the current expansion of LBCT by 2022, which will significantly increase the capacity of the terminal."

Source - The Loadstar..

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