

## 6th BESTUFS II Workshop Göteborg Technical visit 23rd March 2007

### Summary and pictures of the visit of the port of Göteborg

The Port of Göteborg is located on the west coast of Sweden, on the northern bank of the River Göta mouth. The modern port is sheltered from the North Sea by the Danish mainland and two over-locking archipelagos.

When the City of Göteborg was founded in 1621, water transport was almost the only opportunity to get the Swedish classic exports iron and timber out. Ports were very important for the Swedish economy, and the City and the Port of Göteborg were perfectly situated in the river-mouth of the River Göta.

As the only port in the country with the capacity to accept regular transoceanic ship calls, the Port of Göteborg is therefore an important link in Swedish industry's chain of transport, which in the long run is a matter of the country's economy. In terms of weight, almost 90% of all goods exported are transported over water. 65% of Swedish container traffic and 25% of Sweden's foreign trade goes via the Port of Göteborg.

Each year, over 300,000 new vehicles pass through Göteborg. Approximately half of these vehicles are destined for the European market and are handled at the Ro-Ro Terminal. The largest container terminal in the Nordic region (820,000 containers TEU) is to be found in Göteborg and it is the only one in Sweden with traffic involving ocean-going vessels. The Oil Harbour is the most important general oil harbour in the Nordic region. The harbour provides land for depots, quays, import/export of oil, bunkering and co-ordination of issues related to safety, the natural environment and the working environment. Each year, around 2,500 vessels call at the port. The annual turnover of crude oil, oil products and chemicals is approximately 20 million tonnes. The Port of Göteborg has one of the largest rail terminals with 644,000 Ro/Ro units per year and more than 70 trains pass through the Port of Göteborg to and from urban centres throughout Sweden, Norway and Denmark. Ferry traffic and the majority of cruise ships put into the inner harbours, close to the city centre. Stena Line has its head office near the Masthugg Quay. Each year, 2.3 million passengers pass through Göteborg. To increase the number of calls by cruise ships, the Port of Göteborg collaborates with Cruise Baltic, which co-ordinates the increase in demand from cruise lines.

The visit went through the whole port and showed the different kinds of goods passing through and the related transshipment and storage facilities. Furthermore, a good overview of the surrounding areas of the port was given. The port activities have been bundled and free space is now used for other purposes like offices and housing. The rail and road access to the port runs mainly through the suburbs of Göteborg leading to interferences with the inhabitants.





