



## Freightliner launch new Tilbury to Manchester service driving modal shift and utilising newly launched rail freight incentive

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Today, Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September, Freightliner, along with several industry partners and the local MP for Thurrock, celebrated the launch of the new Tilbury2 to Manchester Trafford Park intermodal rail freight service. This new service, transporting containers arriving from Europe, is particularly significant as it was made possible by the Access Charge Discount scheme, recently launched by Network Rail to support the launch of new services and encourage modal shift to rail.

Tim Shoveller, CEO at Freightliner Group, commented, "We are thrilled to see this new service up and running. The Access Charge Discount scheme is an important initiative to deliver modal shift and achieve industry growth targets. We are pleased that our new daily train for P&O Ferrymasters is the first service to use the new Access Charge Discount scheme, enabling us to deliver our customers' goods more sustainably".

This service is delivering significant modal shift removing HGVs from some of Britain's busiest motorways and cutting carbon emissions by 76% compared to road. The launch of the service was made possible by the new Network Rail Access Charge Discount scheme, which provides a period of time where charges are waived, to grow volumes and enable the service to become financially sustainable.

John Freyne, Director Intermodal at P&O Ferrymasters said, "We have successfully implemented numerous rail corridors across Europe in collaboration with our valued customers. We are pleased that the industry has worked collaboratively to make this new UK service a reality. We expect the roundtrip train to take around 10,000 trucks off busy UK roads annually, enabling us to remove thousands of tonnes of carbon emissions from the supply chains of our customers. Adding a UK rail service to our extensive European Multimodal network has been a key goal for us, and we are delighted that the new Network Rail scheme has made this possible."

The new scheme, announced by Network Rail, offers 6 months free track access charges to support the launch of a new rail services, helping to drive modal shift and incentivise businesses to use rail freight.

Network Rail's director of planning and regulation, Paul McMahon, said: "Rail freight plays a crucial role in our economy, and it does so in a sustainable way. The launch of this services is a great example of how Network Rail can play a big role in growing our economy in a way that minimises our impact on the environment."

This new Freightliner service will depart from Tilbury2, one of London's major ports, to Manchester Trafford Park running 5 days a week – it is the first service to utilise Network Rail's new scheme.

Paul Dale, Chief Operating Officer at Forth Ports, commented: "Green rail logistics is transforming our customers' supply chains and this new service from our rail terminal in Tilbury2 is a prime example. The partnership approach between Freightliner, P&O Ferrymasters and Forth Ports has created a tailored solution that will help drive sustainability up-and-down this important British supply chain."

Jen Craft, MP for Thurrock, said: "Rail is central to the growth of the green economy and I'm pleased to see the proactive steps taken by Network Rail, Forth Ports and its partners to deliver this daily rail service carrying food and other essentials across the country."

Freightliner, along with industry partners, are committed to using the development of Network Rail's new discount scheme as a springboard for a policy framework that delivers growth and drives modal shift into the future.

## About Freightliner

Freightliner is the UK's largest maritime intermodal logistics operator, transporting containers from all major deep-sea ports to our national network of inland terminals, as well as a leading operator in the UK Heavy Haul rail freight market.

Freightliner is a subsidiary of Freightliner Group Ltd, which has operations across Europe offering both Intermodal and Heavy Haul rail freight services seamlessly connecting European countries and the UK.

[www.Freightliner.co.uk](http://www.Freightliner.co.uk)

## About Network Rail

We own, operate and develop Britain's railway infrastructure; that's 20,000 miles of track, 30,000 bridges, tunnels and viaducts and the thousands of signals, level crossings and stations. We run 20 of the UK's largest stations while all the others, over 2,500, are run by the country's train operating companies.

Usually, there are almost five million journeys made in the UK and over 600 freight trains run on the network. People depend on Britain's railway for their daily commute, to visit friends and loved ones and to get them home safe every day. Our role is to deliver a safe and reliable railway, so we carefully manage and deliver thousands of projects every year that form part of the multi-billion pound Railway Upgrade Plan, to grow and expand the nation's railway network to respond to the tremendous growth and demand the railway has experienced - a doubling of passenger journeys over the past 20 years.

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## About P&O Ferrymasters

P&O Ferrymasters is dedicated to providing unrivalled expertise in logistics and multimodal transportation, by seamlessly integrating road, rail, and sea to advance customers.

P&O Ferrymasters offer an extensive end-to-end network, plus access to the logistics expertise of the parent company, DP World.

The plus 800 employees, from over 30 nations, represent the most experienced team of multimodal experts in Europe, dedicated to managing trade flows.

With the extensive network, frequent departures, modern equipment, robust contingency planning, and experience, P&O Ferrymasters offers reliable services, scale capacity quickly and respond promptly to volume fluctuations.

That's what it takes to fly the flag.

## **About Forth Ports / Port of Tilbury**

Forth Ports Limited owns and operates The Port of Tilbury, alongside seven other commercial ports on the Firth of Forth and the Firth of Tay: Grangemouth, Dundee, Leith, Rosyth, Methil, Burntisland and Kirkcaldy.

The Port of Tilbury is the number one UK port for forestry products, construction materials, paper, grain, recyclables and warehousing space. The port has a strong market presence in bulk commodities, ro-ro, cars and cruise vessels. The port's London Container Terminal handles a mix of short and deep-sea services, is the UK's number four port for containers and has the greatest reefer (refrigerated container) point connectivity in Europe. Tilbury's strategic location makes it a natural point for distribution, with nearly 20 million people living within 75 miles. Serving the UK's market, the port offers customers excellent transport links to and from the UK's capital and across the South East where over 50% of the population live and work. The port is a diverse multi-modal hub, covering around 1,100 acres (850 acres and the London Distribution Park, in addition to the Tilbury2 site) and is well positioned to access the M25 orbital motorway and the rest of the UK's national motorway network. In addition, there are direct rail connections within the port and dedicated barge facilities. [www.forthports.co.uk](http://www.forthports.co.uk) [www.tilbury2.co.uk](http://www.tilbury2.co.uk) @forthports