

Rotterdam your world-class coal port



Center for European coal transshipment

Rotterdam is the center for European coal transshipment. No other port handles more steam coal for power plants and coking coal for the steel industry. Access to the port by sea is unrivalled and the same applies to transport via rivers, rail and shortsea. The Port of Rotterdam Authority and the port business community are also gearing up for further growth. The added challenge is to achieve this in a sustainable way.

UNRIVALLED ACCESS BY SEA

Rotterdam enjoys a strategic location in Northwest Europe, right on the North Sea, and it is unhampered by tides or locks. Bulk carriers up to 350,000 tonnes dwt can enter the port in all conditions, 24 hours a day. The draft in the port up to 75 feet.

WIDE CHOICE OF FACILITIES

In the port of Rotterdam, there is a wide choice of coal terminals for transshipment and storage:

- The largest coal terminal is EMO, situated on the Maasvlakte. The 1365-metre long quay can accommodate four capesize bulk carriers. For unloading, four gigantic quay cranes are used, with floating facilities to provide flexible back-up. In one day, EMO can unload 175,000 tonnes of coal. Even the largest vessels are ready to leave again within two days.

- Another important terminal operator is EBS. At its terminal in the Botlek area, the company can unload bulk carriers up to 70,000 tonnes dwt efficiently round the clock. EBS also has facilities in the Europoort for ship-to-ship transfers between capesize vessels and inland barges or coasters.
- For the handling of smaller consignments of coal in the port - with maximum service - Rotterdam Bulk Terminal is a flexible and attractive partner.
- EECV handles coal. The dedicated terminal supplies its owners TKS and HKM with all the coking coal they need.

Linked directly with the handling operations, EMO in particular is a specialist in screening, crushing, blending and washing coal. In addition, there are a large number of surveyors, freight forwarders and other logistics service providers active in the port, fully dedicated to coal.

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UNRESTRICTED ACCESS TO THE EUROPEAN MARKET

For a bulk product like coal, Rotterdam is the ideal entrance to the European market:

- Rotterdam is situated at the mouth of the rivers Rhine and Maas. Inland shipping is therefore an ideal mode of transport for the reliable and cost-effective movement of large volumes to countries like Germany, France, Belgium and the Netherlands itself.
- For rail, the port is the start and end of the Betuweroute, the 160-kilometre dedicated freight railway between Rotterdam and Germany, with a direct connection to the extensive European railway network. In order to load trains efficiently in the port, EMO has invested in new, high-capacity loading equipment for coal trains.
- Rotterdam is also perfectly situated for transshipment. The open connection with the North Sea forms the basis for short turnaround times and efficient short-sea transport to the UK and other destinations.

RESPONDING TO GROWTH

European demand for coal from overseas is expected to increase sharply in the coming decades. The main reasons are the phased closure of German mines (ending in 2018) and the construction of new coal-fired power plants, in both the Netherlands and Germany.

In response to this, the Port of Rotterdam Authority, together with port business, is working on extra facilities. EMO can expand further on the Maasvlakte. The Port Authority will invest in an extension of the berths. On a filled-in area on the southern side of the Mississippihaven (the so-called 'Hartelstrook'), a new dry bulk terminal facility will be realised and will meet the most stringent environmental standards. The Port Authority is also extending the possibilities for ship-to-ship transfer using buoys and dolphins, for example in the deep waters of the Caland Canal.

COMMITMENT TO 'CLEAN' COAL

Rotterdam wants to be Europe's number one energy port. Coal forms an indispensable element of this, both now and in the future. At the same time, Rotterdam attaches great importance to the sustainable development of the port and city. The aim of the Rotterdam Climate Initiative (www.rotterdamclimateinitiative.nl) is to halve CO₂ emissions in the region by 2025, in comparison with 1990. New coal-fired power plants must therefore meet the most stringent environmental standards. In this connection, the Port of Rotterdam Authority plays an active role itself in research into large-scale CO₂ capture and its storage underground.

PORT OF ROTTERDAM AUTHORITY: WORKING TOGETHER TOWARDS WORLD CLASS

The Port of Rotterdam Authority is the proactive manager of the port complex. Together with our clients, our ambition is to create the best possible conditions for a sustainable and successful coal cluster.

You can always approach our Business desk Bulk Cargo & Shipping with all your questions about the coal business in the port. With all the combined knowledge and experience, plus our extensive network in and outside the port, we are always pleased to help you further along your way.

PORT OF ROTTERDAM AUTHORITY

The aim of the Port of Rotterdam Authority is to enhance the port of Rotterdam's competitive position as a logistics hub and world-class industrial complex. Not only in terms of size, but also quality.

The core tasks of the Port Authority are to develop, manage and run the port in a sustainable way and to maintain a speedy and safe service for shipping.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

Port of Rotterdam Authority

P.O. Box 6622, 3002 AP

Rotterdam, The Netherlands

T + 31 (0)10 252 10 10

F + 31 (0)10 252 10 20

E info@portofrotterdam.com

I www.portofrotterdam.com