

---

# CONTAINER EXCHANGE ROUTE. THE SMART WAY TO CONNECT. MAKE IT HAPPEN.

---



# CONTAINER EXCHANGE ROUTE THE SMART WAY TO CONNECT



The Container Exchange Route (CER) links Maasvlakte's container companies. The CER allows the companies to minimise the cost of container exchanges. This improves their respective inland and transshipment products and strengthens Rotterdam's competitive position as a container hub. The CER bundles container flows – meaning that trains, barges and feeder vessels no longer have to call on all terminals individually.

## THE MAIN ADVANTAGES: better connectivity, shorter port call turnaround times, more flexibility and lower costs

With the CER, the Port Authority will be introducing – along with the deep-sea terminals, barge/feeder terminals, empty depots, State Inspection Terminal and distribution centres – an entirely new, advanced and unique system. It comprises dedicated infrastructure, logistics agreements and IT systems that link the port's terminals, empty depots, State Inspection Terminal and distribution centres. The expectation is that ultimately, over 1 million containers per year will be exchanged in this area. Construction of the CER track has started in April 2019. The civil works will be finished in 2020. The CER will be operational in 2021.

### PROJECT RESULTS:

- A closed multiple-lane paved route
- Deep-sea terminals, barge/feeder terminals, empty depots, State Inspection Terminal and distribution centres are all connected
- Operational simplification in terms of documentation, customs and administrative requirements (ease of doing business)

### CER COMPRISES:

#### Civil works

- Some 17 km of new paved road
- Multiple exchange locations on the sites of the terminals
- Road systems (including lighting, cables and pipelines, traffic guidance systems, barriers)
- Dedicated glass fibre network entire CER track

#### Advanced IT solutions

- Optical Character Recognition in the gates
- Vehicle Identification via GPS/RFID and virtual geofencing
- Nuclear scan (Customs)

The port of Rotterdam is the largest container hub in Europe. The huge scale of the port's container throughput creates interesting benefits. For example, Rotterdam has scheduled connections with over 1,000 ports worldwide and excellent intermodal links to the European mainland.

Rotterdam aims to remain Europe's leading container hub and further develop its market position in North Europe. Even more than is presently the case, Rotterdam needs to become the foremost location for the exchange of containers between sea-going and coastal vessels, as well as the place where cargo for the European mainland is bundled into combined train and inland shipping transports. Maasvlakte is the perfect area to realise these ambitions.

## Port of Rotterdam Authority

The objective of the Port of Rotterdam Authority is to enhance the port's competitive position as a logistics hub and world-class industrial complex. Not only in terms of size, but also with regard to quality. The Port Authority is therefore leading the transition to sustainable energy and it is committed to digitalisation in order to make the port, and the supply chain, more efficient. The core tasks of the Port Authority are to develop, manage and exploit the port in a sustainable way and to deliver speedy and safe services for shipping.

## More information

Port of Rotterdam Authority • Arwin Stehouwer • Business Manager Container Terminals • cer@portofrotterdam.com • +31 (0)10 252 1258