



“Maintenance is one of the pillars supporting operations, and having skills supplied by a third party on a contract basis ensured consistency.”

SIYA MHLALUKA, GENERAL MANAGER,
TRANSNET PORT TERMINALS,
EASTERN CAPE REGION

Ensuring productivity at Port of Ngqura

Transnet Port Terminals has opted for a full service and maintenance contract covering both Kalmar equipment and equipment from other suppliers.

Name Port of Ngqura, Transnet Port Terminals (TPT)
Location Eastern Cape, South Africa
Ownership Part of the state-owned Transnet group

Throughput 2 million TEU
Supported fleet RTGs, reachstackers,
empty container handlers, haulers, trailers

Partnering for success

With Kalmar providing the professional service, skills and people, Transnet Port Terminals can focus on its core customer business.

The challenge

The Port of Ngqura, opened in 2009, is currently Africa's deepest container terminal and serves as a Southern African hub for cargo bound for South Africa, the rest of the African continent and south-south traffic.

The port is growing fast with volumes doubling over the past year and setting the benchmark for productivity on the African continent, says **Siya Mhlaluka**, General Manager of TPT's Easter Cape Region. "Our team is the first on the continent to reach 32 moves per gross crane hour," he says.

Another challenge that demands constant innovation and flexibility is harsh weather. As with most seaports, Ngqura is subject to extremes, with maintenance having to be carried out in wind, rain and harsh sunlight when the ground temperature in the container terminal can reach 40 degrees Celcius.

The solution

Maintenance is one of the pillars supporting operations. To support its asset management strategy, TPT weighed up factors such as readiness, skills, warranty management, time to set up and cost, and decided to partner with an original equipment manufacturer. As Kalmar is responsible for first line people management, TPT has more time to execute the operations plan and set the strategic direction.

All 22 of the Kalmar Ngqura rubber tyred gantry cranes (RTG's) are linked to TPT's SAP Plant Maintenance Programme. The system allows the Kalmar maintenance team to predict the pending maintenance and service requirements of each machine. This means the team can plan ahead to ensure that the necessary equipment, spares, supplies and people are available when needed in order to minimise down time during maintenance.

The results

According to Mhlaluka, Kalmar has contributed to the success of the port. The Kalmar team has ensured that it consistently exceeds the target of 98.6 percent availability of the fleet it maintains. Both TPT and Kalmar monitor the availability of every single piece of equipment on a daily basis and hold regular meetings to identify and solve any problems that arise. This way TPT has been able to focus on moving containers and to provide a professional and efficient service to its customers.

Health and safety are also a key priority and Ngqura has achieved more than three million work hours without a lost time injury. "Our achievement as the holder of the Transnet safety record is a testimony to the commitment of suppliers, such as Kalmar, to health and safety," says Mhlaluka.

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Kalmar is the industry forerunner in terminal automation and in energy efficient container handling, with one in four container movements around the globe being handled by a Kalmar solution. Kalmar is part of Cargotec.

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