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MEDIA RELEASE

LPC UNVEIL FOUR NEW STRADDLES

Lyttelton Port of Christchurch (LPC) today officially unveiled four new straddle carriers, increasing the current fleet from 18 to 22.

The investment was made in response to huge demand in container trade and to support the future growth of the business. Container trade has increased by more than 20% in the past two year and expected to double in the next eight years.

The new straddle carriers, purchased from Liebherr Container Cranes, are diesel electric and will stack one over two high. They are linked to the ports computerised container tracking system and are supplied with a 50t twin lift spreader.

The straddles were all signed off last week and have begun operations at the container terminal in Cashin Quay.

"The new diesel electric straddle carriers will deliver improved productivity and energy efficiency," said LPC Chief Executive, Peter Davie.

"The investment in infrastructure is expected to have an immediate impact on port efficiency but forms part of a strategy to set a platform for future growth."

The straddles are a part of a \$21m investment in infrastructure that also includes a ship-to-shore gantry crane which is expected to be delivered in the latter half of 2014 and is timed to coincide with the Cashin Quay berth reinstatement programme and development work for the Terminal.

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