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CK Line, Hapag-Lloyd, IAL, KMTC, Wan Hai reached another key milestone to extend electronic Release Order (eRO) service to all their customers

The Kwai Tsing terminal operators, including Asia Container Terminals Limited, COSCO-HIT Terminals (Hong Kong) Limited, Hongkong International Terminals Limited, Hong Kong Container Terminal 3 and Modern Terminals Limited, announced in early 2018 their plan to fully implement eRO for paperless release of import containers by the end of 2019. This is one of the key digitalisation initiatives to improve supply chain efficiency and strengthen Hong Kong Port competiveness.

Since the launch of eRO by OnePort Limited (OnePort) in mid-2017, terminals have facilitated electronic release for more than 10,000 import containers at zero error rate. Thousands of users—shipping lines, consignees, truckers, and freight forwarders have already signed up to use eRO service.

For the last 12 months, most shipping lines have been offering eRO service only to pre-selected customers. The benefits of eRO create a strong demand from the port community to get more shipping lines to allow them to use eRO. "eRO is easy to use," said General Mills Hong Kong Limited. "But I do hope that more shipping lines can offer eRO to us so that we do not need to handle paper and electronic processes in parallel."

Five shipping lines — CK Line, Hapag-Lloyd, Interasia Lines, KMTC, Wan Hai — have decided to extend eRO service to all their customers starting March 11, 2019. This important move is a response to the community's excellent experience with the new eRO service.

"Simplicity is beauty." said DHL Global Forwarding (Hong Kong) Limited. "eRO service can indeed trim down physical current DO documentation procedures, saving tremendous cost and time. We're happy to see the commitment demonstrated by OnePort to continuously improve the service and more shipping lines participate."

The sentiment is echoed by trucking companies. "The old paper-based delivery order makes it very difficult for us to change truck driver once he got the paper document. With the new electronic release order, we can switch job orders on mobile phone among our drivers at any moment. It is very flexible." explained Raymond Siu, Deputy GM & Head of Transport Solutions, Yat Fai Group.

By leveraging technologies, shipping lines seize great opportunities to enhance their customers' experience. It is expected that more shipping lines will open eRO service to all their customers in 2nd quarter, aligning the plan of full implementation of eRO for paperless release of import containers at terminals by the end of 2019.

For other information on eRO, please visit the following links:

- eRO Online Registration: <u>http://reg.oneport.com</u>
- Frequent Asked Questions: <u>https://www.oneport.com/ero/faq.html</u>
- List of Registered Freight Forwarders & Trucking Companies: <u>https://www.oneport.com/eroff.html</u>
- Notice on Electronic Release Implementation: <u>http://reg.oneport.com/pdf/eRO_Info.pdf</u>

About OnePort

OnePort provides information and related services to strengthen the competitive position of Hong Kong as a logistics hub. Our primary focus is to improve the efficiency of container movements through the port of Hong Kong. Established in February 2003, OnePort Limited is an initiative in response to the growing demand for building a world class information exchange platform for the Hong Kong Port Community. OnePort was founded by Hongkong International Terminals Limited (HIT), Modern Terminals Limited (MTL) and COSCO-HIT Terminals (Hong Kong) Limited (CHT). Tradelink Electronic Commerce Limited is also a shareholder of OnePort.

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