



Offshore gateway

It's an exciting time at the Port of Rotterdam. It already has a flourishing business network and is set to get even bigger with the development of the Offshore Center Maasvlakte 2. Joost Eenhuizen, Business Manager, Port of Rotterdam Authority, provides PES with a look in to the future at this unique project in Europe.



Artist's impression

The ambition of the Port of Rotterdam Authority is to be a world leader in the field of sustainability. The goal is greener industry and logistics, which will improve and maintain the environmental quality. The use of alternative energy supplies such as wind, solar and biomass is increasing so as to provide a viable alternative to fossil fuels.

It's in the Port of Rotterdam's (PoR) DNA to look ahead and plan new developments. Two new markets, offshore wind and decommissioning are now firmly in sight due to this new venture. The Oil & Gas industry will also benefit from the improvement and expansion of the already good port capabilities.

The development of the 'Offshore Center' didn't just happen. It has come after years

of thorough research and hundreds of various discussions with different offshore companies, in order to ascertain the needs associated with such big expansion.

This ensures that the Center will combine all the necessary, basic activities and services of an all-round offshore terminal, for the decommissioning, oil & gas and offshore wind markets. Flexibility and cooperation among the companies involved is key to the development and further growth of the Center.

It is located at our latest port extension Maasvlakte 2. The area provides almost unlimited opportunities in heights, water depth, quay walls, environmental permits, Jack-up possibilities and also most importantly, room for growth.

All companies working here have to be

sustainable and there will be stringent agreements with the companies in regards to air quality, noise and cleaner local transport, as well as the efficient use and/or reuse of energy, each other's waste heat, waste materials and semi-manufactured products.

Companies also recognise the need to tackle environmental problems and seek new forms of sustainable management. In addition, they see opportunities to increase their efficiency. As a result, Maasvlakte 2 is a showcase which demonstrates that sustainability and economic growth are perfectly compatible.

The Offshore Center Maasvlakte 2 grew from a concept, which has now moved to the construction phase. Firstly this entails reclaiming 70 hectares of land, beginning



Location of Offshore Center Maasvlakte 2



The brand new cutter Helios from Boskalis is the biggest and most powerful cutter that Boskalis has ever developed. Photo credit: Paul Martens

with bringing in almost 8 million cubic metres of sand to help create the land.

One month after the planning was approved for the Offshore Center Maasvlakte 2 (OCMV2) to PUMA a contract was signed for a joint venture between two Rotterdam based companies, Boskalis and van Oord.

The construction began mid-July and the 70 ha of land will be completed by November 2017. The sand needs a settling period and the building of terrain, roads, buildings and the quay walls are planned for the second half of 2018, with the first quay wall operational by mid-2019.

This is a very important project for the Port of Rotterdam. OCMV2 is the solution to be able to fulfil market demands in the upscaling and speed up in markets such as offshore wind and it will be possible to offer unrivalled facilities to the decommissioning market and oil & gas.

OCMV2 will also create spin-off opportunities in the area. The region will benefit from it, offering Rotterdam's cluster of high quality and diverse industries even more openings.

These Rotterdam based partners will be able to expand in to the new markets because there will be more than

enough room for growth.

This will include areas and services to accommodate projects which require >5 ha of land, water depths of up to 18m, use Jack-ups, large construction zones and sheds or heavy load zones, all in the same location.

There isn't another offshore center like this in Europe of this scale directly on the deep water of the North Sea. It has the back-up of the cluster of over 900 companies already working in and around the Port, which will assist the users of this new offshore center both directly or indirectly.

Rotterdam is ideally positioned for a large part of the North Sea developments foreseen in the coming decade. Making offshore wind market and decommissioning the main target markets to conquer.

In discussions many companies expressed the view that until now Rotterdam was unable to provide adequate and appropriate space. Once built, the offshore center will change all this.

Would you like to join the Offshore Center Maasvlakte 2? Please visit:

www.portofrotterdam.com/offshorecenter

The Offshore Center Maasvlakte 2

Capacity:

70 ha of land space

1600m heavy load quay wall

Water depths of -18m

Jack-up possibility