

# Mumbai Port Contract for Boskalis

Royal Boskalis Westminster N.V. (Boskalis, The Netherlands) has acquired a contract with port operator Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) for deepening and widening the port and access channel of JNPT in Mumbai, India. The contract has a total value of approximately EUR175 million. The dredging work will commence in September 2012 and is expected to take two years to complete.

The expansion comprises the deepening and widening of the 33.5 kilometres' long access channel, the port basins and turning basins. In total, approximately 67 million cubic metres of sand, silt, clay and rock will be removed. For this project, a jumbo and medium-sized trailing suction hopper dredgers will be used in combination with a jumbo cutter suction dredger and a large backhoe.

Jawaharlal Nehru Port is the largest container port in the country with an annual handling capacity of 4.3 million TEU. This volume represents more than 50% of the total quantity of containers that are handled by Indian ports. By deepening the port from the current 11.5 metres to over 14 metres, it will be possible to receive larger types of container vessels and as a result, according to the port operator, the annual capacity will increase to approximately 10 million TEU.

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