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DOUBLED FREQUENCY FOR RAIL SHUTTLE BETWEEN DUNKIRK AND THE PARIS AREA

One year after the launch of a weekly rail shuttle between Dunkirk's Flanders Terminal and the Bonneuil-sur-Marne Terminal in the Greater Paris Area, GREENMODAL (a company of the CMA CGM Group specialising in intermodal transport) is doubling the frequency of the service.

As of 10 December 2012 the combined transport operator GREENMODAL will run two 80-TEU* shuttles a week between the Port of Dunkirk and the southeast of the Paris Area.

The operator's aim is to provide a multi-line combined transport offer for the many shippers in the south-eastern suburbs of Paris.

This new link is available to all marine operators, and is scheduled to synchronise with the calls of mother ships at Dunkirk, operating overnight. It will leave Dunkirk every Monday and Wednesday evening for delivery at Bonneuil-sur-Marne on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, and leave the Paris area on Tuesday and Thursday evenings to arrive at Dunkirk every Wednesday and Friday morning.

With a port railway network comprising more than 200 km of tracks and traffic in excess of 10 MT, the Port of Dunkirk has long been involved in consolidating its overland transport volumes.

Commenting on the initiative, Daniel Deschodt, Commercial Director of Dunkerque-Port, said: "This offer represents a new stage in the strategy of extending the hinterland of France's foremost rail port. The shuttle is fully synchronised with the shipping services in place (Asia, India, Pakistan, the West Coast of Africa, Morocco, Russia, etc) and will meet the needs of many shippers, consolidate the existing coverage and attract new clients."

*TEU: Twenty-Foot equivalent Unit

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France's third-ranking port, Dunkirk is well known as a port handling heavy bulk cargoes for its numerous industrial installations. It has also built its reputation in other sectors such as cross-Channel RORO traffic to Great Britain, containers, fruits, etc. Classified as the seventh port of the North Europe Range which extends from Le Havre to Hamburg, Dunkirk is also the leading French port for ore and coal imports, France's leading port for containerised fruit imports, and the country's second-ranking port for trade with Great Britain.