


[online newsletters](#)
[subscribe or unsubscribe](#)


# le bateau-feu

the monthly newsletter from Dunkerque-Port #79 - September 2014

## • APPOINTMENT

[Comment](#)
[Like](#)

## STÉPHANE RAISON APPOINTED CHAIR OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Stéphane Raison, a senior civil engineer, was appointed Executive Committee Chair of Grand Port Maritime de Dunkerque (GPMD) by decree of the French President on 25 July 2014.



Since 2013 the 44-year-old had been Chair of the Executive Committee of Grand Port Maritime de La Reunion, after playing a leading part in its formation in 2012 as part of the Overseas Ports Reform.

The new Chair of GPMD's Executive Committee is no stranger to Dunkerque-Port, having been Planning and Environment Director of GPMD from January 2009 to March 2012, and then Interim General Director from August 2011 to March 2012. Stéphane Raison's road map includes some major projects, both planned and in progress, such as the opening of the oil terminal, the extension of the Flanders quay, the LNG provisioning unit, the swing circle, and logistics parks. The Port's new strategic plan, which is currently being drafted, will also serve to define the guidelines for sustainable development and the transformation of local industry around the traditional core activities of the industrial and port area.

Stéphane Raison's aim is the commercial revitalisation of the Port into a real gateway for its hinterland, with the following ambitions:

- To recapture markets, particularly in the Nord-Pas de Calais region, eastern France and beyond, the eastern Paris area, Germany and Great Britain;
- To consolidate the Port's industrial activities through the adaptation of port services and infrastructures;
- To develop new business parks for hosting services or industries with added value relating to circular economy and innovative sectors such as secure logistics, offshore wind power and green chemistry;
- To reinforce the Port's market share in the controlled-temperature products sector;
- To anchor Dunker's position in the field of shortsea shipping to northern Europe and the Iberian peninsula;
- To improve transport links by ocean-going lines and new positioning in transshipment;
- To support the creation of new multimodal waterway and rail links for consolidated transport;
- To ensure safety, efficiency and fluidity in services to ships and transit of goods in liaison with private operators, port workers and government departments.

## • TRADE FAIRS

[Comment](#)
[Like](#)

## DUNKERQUE-PORT WILL BE AT THE FOLLOWING TRADE FAIRS:



**WORLDFOOD  
MOSCOW**

Food industry fair,  
to be held at Expocenter

**15-18 SEPT 2014**



**TOP TRANSPORT  
EUROPE**

Trade fair for  
European shippers,  
at Palais du Pharo, Marseille

**7-8 OCT 2014**



**SIFEL  
MOROCCO**

International trade fair for the  
Fruit & Vegetable sector, to be  
held at Ait Melloul

**13-16 NOV 2014**



**RIVERDATING  
LUXEMBOURG**

Trade fair for European  
waterway and multimodal  
transport operators

**19&20 NOV 2014**

*In parallel with the SIFEL show, a delegation from the Port of Dunkirk will also go to Morocco in November for a commercial mission, visiting Casablanca on Wednesday 12 November and Agadir on Friday 14 November.*

## TONNAGE UP BY 10% IN THE FIRST HALF-YEAR

Good performance by general cargoes and bulk solids in the early part of the year resulted in a **10% upturn in traffic for the first six months with a volume of 23 Mt**, more than 2 Mt higher than during the same period in 2013.

Roro traffic rose **14%** to 6.70 Mt, compared with last year. The number of trucks and trailers showed a rise of **17%** with 278,000 freight units. Passengers and tourist vehicles were up **6%** and **4%** respectively (1,013,000 passengers and 262,000 vehicles).

The number of containers handled was 154,000 TEU, an increase of **17%**. Ore traffic performed well during the half-year, with a rise of **20%** to 6.70 Mt.

The volume of coal traffic was 2.08 Mt, a drop of 27%.

Grain exports had already reached 1.33 Mt at the end of June, up **185%**. During the grain campaign from June 2013 to June 2014, the volume exported via Dunkirk was **2,408,000 tonnes**, setting an **all-time record**.

«Small» bulk solids were 9% higher at 1.38 Mt. Petroleum products fell by 8% to 2.52 Mt and other bulk liquids were down 12% at 340 Kt. Overall, bulk liquids posted a fall of 8% to 2.86 Mt.



## NATIONAL WIND-POWER CONFERENCE IN LILLE ON 7 OCTOBER

After Bordeaux, Dijon, Nantes and Le Havre, the 2014 National Wind-power Conference of the Renewable Energies Authority (SER) will be held in Lille's Grand Palais on 7 October, attended by more than 500 participants.



After Bordeaux, Dijon, Nantes and Le Havre, the 2014 National Wind-power Conference of the Renewable Energies Authority (SER) will be held in Lille's Grand Palais on 7 October, attended by more than 500 participants.

With French President François Hollande as its patron, this 5th conference takes place on the eve of two strategic events for France: the Energy Transition Act which should be adopted in the spring of 2015, and the 2015 Climate Conference to be held in Paris in December of the same year. The bill plans for an increase in renewable energies with a target proportion of 32% of our total energy supply compared with 14% today, and 40% of it for electricity compared with 15% at present.

In coming years, therefore, the wind-power sector will have an even greater role than that assigned to it by the Grenelle environment act. Wind-power will also help in combating global warming. In its latest report, the International Energy Agency recommends «mobilising the potential of electricity» to limit the rise in temperature to 2° by 2050. Wind-power is one of the most efficient and cheapest solutions for this mobilisation.

This is the context of the national wind-power conference to be held in Lille, and several factors influenced the organisers' choice of the city for the 2014 event. The Nord-Pas de Calais was one of the pioneer regions in the development of France's wind-farm projects and the connected wind-power at the end of 2013, amounting to 530 megawatts, places it 7th among the French regions.

In addition, the region has adopted an ambitious Regional Wind-power Plan for 1,400 MW (nearly 8% of France's wind-power target) by 2020. It also offers potential for developing offshore wind-power thanks to its sea frontage, and projects off the coast of Dunkirk, that could

## POINT OF VIEW :

**JOËL RATEL,**  
GENERAL DIRECTOR  
OF NORD CÉRÉALES



### «AN EXCEPTIONAL CAMPAIGN DUE TO THE COMBINATION OF SEVERAL FACTORS»

«For the campaign just ended, which ran from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014, grain exports from the Port of Dunkirk reached a new record with a total volume of 2,524,364T. The last record was set in 2010 with 2,454,000T. This very high tonnage has been achieved thanks to a number of factors:

**1. First and foremost**, the quality of the grain. This has allowed us to export to new destinations, notably West Africa, Kuwait, Israel, Jordan, Syria and China.

**2. Investments:** Our second gantry ship loader means we can load at a rate of some 1,600 to 1,700 tonnes an hour, i.e. a Panamax in 42 hours. Loading time is a significant factor for exporters.

**3. The movement of our barge gantries** which enables us to discharge 8,000 tonnes a day. We are grateful to the Port of Dunkirk for having supported and assisted us in this development.

And Nord Céréales is not stopping there! New investments are planned, in particular for a new dryer for the spring of 2015, as well as two large cleaners with a throughput of 800 tonnes/hour.

Nord Céréales will also be the delivery silo in the autumn of 2015 for the MATIF futures market contracts, which will ensure even greater recognition for the company on the grain market.

Finally, we want to develop other activities, and especially imports. This year we have imported more than 22,000T of sunflower oil cakes. We want to regain our rightful place on this type of market. We are also looking at fertiliser imports, together with our clients. So we are keen to see the Seine North Europe canal opened.»



## NATIONAL COASTAL AND CIVIL ENGINEERING CONFERENCE

On Wednesday 2 July 2014 the National Coastal and Civil Engineering Conference was officially opened by Daniel Levacher, President of the French Coastal Centre, at the Kursaal Centre in Dunkirk. Those present included Arnaud Hequette (Opal Coast University – ULCO), Robin Bocquet (Vice-President of ULCO Scientific Council), Patrice Vergriete (Mayor of Dunkirk and Chairman of Dunkirk Urban Community), and Yves Lalaut (Planning and Environment Director at Dunkerque-Port).



The 2014 Coastal and Civil Engineering Conference offered the opportunity of discussing topics such as coastal dynamics, coastal risks, marine energies and resources, port structures and the management of coastal environments. These subjects are especially important as they are at the centre of both national and local news. Many operators in various fields, both local and national, were present during these three days.

## OUTSIZE CONVOY FOR THE GNL TERMINAL

On Wednesday 25 June an exceptionally large convoy, carrying the future fire cistern for the gnl terminal (1,700 m3 volume) travelled along part of the Braek Dyke and the Ecluse des Dunes roundabout to reach the worksite of Dunkerque LNG.

The cistern was discharged from a seagoing barge by a 700-tonne crane on to the Ecluse des Dunes quay, and placed near its permanent base the following day.



- 130 tonnes (cistern + trailer);
- 15.5 metres high;
- 12 metres wide;
- 64-wheel trailer (8 axles of 8 wheels)

