



PRESS RELEASE

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SME ADVICE UNIT SET UP

Dunkerque-Port, the Cité des Entreprises ("Business City"), the Nord-Pas de Calais Logistics and Transport Club and the Regional Customs Departments of Lille and Dunkirk signed an agreement on 25 June in the presence of the Interregional Customs Director and the President of the Maritime and Commercial Union of Dunkirk.

The agreement has enabled the creation of an advice unit for SMEs within the Cité des Entreprises.

The role of the Customs-Port unit is to assist businesses, through specialist organisations, in their formalities for obtaining deferred payment of VAT at import. It will inform them of the service offers in sea and overland transport in the Port of Dunkirk, and promote contacts with port professionals.

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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 Ro-Ro 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 France's leading port for ore and coal imports; France's leading port for containerised fruit imports; France's leading port for copper imports; and France's second-ranking port for trade with Great Britain.