



Press release  
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## SIIM STRENGTHENS ITS COLLABORATION WITH DUNKERQUE-PORT THROUGH INCREASED IMPORTS OF FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES FROM THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA

The company SIIM (Société Internationale d'IMportation), a leader in the French and European market of imported fresh bananas, pineapples and other tropical fruits, is strengthening its collaboration with Dunkerque-Port in products from the West Coast of Africa, and especially mangoes from Ivory Coast.

General Director Vincent Omer-Decugis stressed the excellent performance of the Port of Dunkirk in handling chilled and frozen goods:

- warehouses close to the short-sea and deep-sea terminals;
- logistics dedicated entirely to fresh produce;
- efficient phytosanitary services.

*"Dunkerque-Port now meets all the conditions for transit of our products in strict compliance with the quality criteria we have set ourselves. The port's facilities and services mean that we can import fresh produce in full confidence and with the guarantee of complete control by the port logistics chain. This is a really strategic factor for us and our customers, to whom we have made pledges about the reliability of our supply chain, guaranteeing the quality of our products,"* explained Vincent Omer-Decugis, adding that he also hopes to further develop his collaboration with Dunkirk in the next few months, particularly by importing more of his flagship products, such as pineapples and bananas from Ecuador.

### PRESS CONTACT

Marie-Elizabeth Bogucki  
Tel: +33 (0)3 28 28 79 11  
Mob: +33 (0)6 07 13 33 42  
Email: mebogucki@portdedunkerque.fr

### SIIM CONTACT

Emeline Pasquier  
emeline@siim.net  
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Stéphane Raison, CEO of Grand Port Maritime de Dunkerque, commented: *"SIIM is one of our major French partners, and a European leader in imports of tropical fruit and fresh vegetables. We are delighted to be strengthening this collaboration which demonstrates the confidence shown in us by this company, which is recognised for the quality of its products and processes."*

#### **About Dunkerque-Port:**

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*The ninth port of the Channel and North Sea Range and France's third-largest port, Dunkirk has built a reputation in many sectors: it is the largest passenger port in Europe (Calais-Dunkirk hub); the largest French port complex, with traffic of more than 90 MT via Calais-Dunkirk; France's largest energy hub; the country's largest LNG terminal; the leading French port for containerised fruit and vegetable imports; the largest French port for ore and coal imports; France's largest rail port; the region's largest waterway port; and the third-ranking French port for grain traffic. Dunkerque-Port is also a sustainable port. It is the trading port of the new Hauts-de-France Region, the largest agricultural region of France, the leading region for the rail industry, and the leading region for the car industry. Traffic in 2016 was 46.7 MT.*

#### **About SIIM:**

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*A producer, importer, ripener and distributor of tropical fruit and vegetables, SIIM is a subsidiary of the OMER-DECUGIS & FILS Group which was founded in 1850. It is one of the references on the European market and a leader in Africa. Present in production in Africa and Latin America, SIIM has its own distribution network in France and Spain from which it supplies all the markets of Europe. It boasts specific know-how in ripening (bananas, mangoes, papayas and avocados) which enables it to offer a range of bananas and tropical fruits with guaranteed maturity from its ripening platform in Rungis. As an operator involved at each stage of the value chain from production to distribution, SIIM is known for its stringent quality and food safety standards (IFS Food certification and AEO approval). Passionately committed to fair development for all, SIIM is "For Life" certified as a responsible employer by the independent group IMO. SIIM is a member of the BSCI (Business Social Compliance Initiative), subscribes to the United Nations Global Compact and supports the Rainforest Alliance. Find out more at [www.siiim.net](http://www.siiim.net).*

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Marie-Elizabeth Bogucki  
Tel: +33 (0)3 28 28 79 11  
Mob: +33 (0)6 07 13 33 42  
Email: mebogucki@portdedunkerque.fr

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