



Caojing Terminal operations gathers momentum

Six months from commissioning of the Caojing Terminal, operations have picked up significant momentum. The terminal has so far handled over a 100 ships, carrying 335,000 tons of product for Vopak's phase one customers. Total tank capacity has reached about 100,000 cbm. Five jetties (W-1,2,5,6 & 7) are fully operational, while W-3 will be operational by 4Q/05. Our logistics services team at the terminal have started handling drums and loaded and dispatched about 1100 trucks. Construction of the remaining phase one customer tanks is ongoing, with capacity reaching about 240,000 cbm by year end 2005.

Total headcount of the company is currently 112 which is about 70% of planned manning levels. Recruitment and training has worked round the clock to ensure all teams are fully manned and new employees are fully trained. Total 59 members of operation staff have been trained on 132 items regarding SHE, Operational, and Technical aspects.

The operations team has also implemented 3 modules of the PEPI system, with the system live since October 1st 2004. Preparations for ISO 9000/14000 and OHSAS 18000 certifications systems is also continuing in parallel and VSL expects to complete these by end of 2006.

Looking ahead, the company has recently approved an expansion to construct 40,000 cbm storage for a customer not in the chemical park. The new tanks with fully integrated truck loading system will be constructed on a new piece of land adjacent to the terminal. The project will cost about US\$ 8.5 million and is expected to be completed by 1Q/2006.

