

Containerships implements IAS EquipmentRepair for container fleet M&R and gate control

Oakland, CA, February 10, 2011 – European carrier [Containerships](#) has adopted the EquipmentRepair™ system from [International Asset Systems](#) (IAS) to manage its entire container maintenance and repair programme. The Helsinki-based carrier provides door-to-door services linking Finland, Russia, Scandinavia, Eastern Europe, the Baltic States, Western Europe, Mediterranean and most recently North Africa, with a box fleet of around 20,000TEU.

Under the 3-year deal, the Containerships Group is now using the IAS web-based software and communications platform to track and control container M&R and gate in/out events across a network of more than 25 depots in Scandinavia, the Baltic, north Europe and the Mediterranean.

Business at Containerships has expanded considerably over the last three years, including the 2009 acquisition of [Contaz Maritime & Trade S.A.](#), a specialist in the north Europe, Mediterranean and North African trades. “With our container fleet doubling in size as a result of growth and acquisition, we needed to streamline our M&R processes,” said Tomi Invenius, Container Fleet Manager at Containerships. “IAS offered a fast and proven route to implement a comprehensive M&R control system and automate communications and data flow with our depots.”

IAS EquipmentRepair is a Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) solution that facilitates the container M&R approval process, allowing equipment owners to automate depot communications, track, control and reduce M&R costs and increase productivity and efficiency. [EquipmentRepair 3.0](#), delivering improved data accuracy and process management, was released last year as a major upgrade of the most widely-used M&R application in the industry.

In the demanding short sea trades, where containers may incur depot activity up to five times a year, keeping firm track on repairs and gate events plays an important role in controlling equipment costs and availability. “The IAS system allows us to capture all of our M&R data on a single database accessed by users based in various Containerships offices,” noted Invenius. “It provides good visibility and instant statistics to help us manage our fleet proactively.”

Invenius said that the new system allows Containerships to analyse details and trends, including specific repair issues by batch of containers, and establish where it might be spending more money on repairs with a particular container type or design. This information can be used to identify improvements to the company’s container designs that will reduce future repair costs.

“Automation of the M&R process has made communications easier and freed up management time,” said Invenius. As repair authorisations are more rapid, Containerships also expects to improve container turnaround time and boost fleet utilisation.

“We are very pleased to have entered into a long-term relationship with Containerships and couldn’t be happier with how the launch went. The team at Containerships were live and managing M&R activity within 16 days of kick-off,” said Douglas Owen, General Manager, EMEA for IAS. “With the signing of Containerships we have another great example of a carrier which has closely evaluated the build-versus-buy equation and concluded that IAS provides the most complete, easily deployed and integration-ready M&R solution available today.”

Ends



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About the Containerships Group

Containerships Group is a door-to-door short sea carrier providing industrial and retail customers with regular connections between Finland, Russia, Scandinavia, Eastern Europe, the Baltic States, Western Europe, East Mediterranean and North Africa.

Following its March 2009 acquisition of Contaz Maritime & Trade S.A., of Turkey, the Group now has a presence in 23 countries, with 500 employees and 20 owned offices. Today, Containerships operates 16 container vessels from 250-1400 TEU capacity, including ice-class strengthened ships, and owns a fleet of over 15,000 containers. This includes 45ft pallet-wide, curtain-side and reefer boxes, plus open tops, flat-racks, bulk boxes and other specials for the European domestic trades. The Group also operates its own truck fleet and offers cargo warehousing, terminal and depot services.

www.containershipsgroup.com

About IAS

Founded in 1998, International Asset Systems (IAS) is the global leader in providing intermodal web-based applications and brokerage services. IAS's team of transportation professionals manage the world's largest intermodal information network, spanning thousands of operators and their trading partners including leading ocean carriers, 3PLs, NVOCCs, IMCs, equipment lessors, motor carriers, repair depots, and railroads. IAS helps clients to reduce equipment, transportation and operational costs, increase booking fulfilment, and achieve greater transport visibility.

The company's suite of on-demand Software-as-a-Service applications can be operated as turnkey solutions accessible on the web or as integrated extensions of a client's transportation management system. Each application is based on industry best practices and can be implemented quickly, enabling clients to realize significant benefits immediately, while avoiding costly investments in technology and resources.

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