Automation set for 2020 launch



NEW ZEALAND'S FIRST AUTOMATED PORT



WORLD'S FIRST OPERATING TERMINAL TO AUTOMATE

In less than 12 months, we will have New Zealand's first automated container terminal. We will also be the first port in the world to automate a container terminal while it is still operating. This creates enormous challenges and affects our capacity as the project develops. This project began three years ago and much has been achieved. Some of this is easy to see, such as the delivery of new cranes and straddles. But there has also been a lot of work that is harder for the public to see, such as new cabling and ducting and the new software that will run the terminal. This capital investment into new infrastructure, machinery and technology will allow the port to operate efficiently within its small footprint.

Automation also means some roles at the port will change. Some jobs will disappear and new jobs will be created. We are supporting our team through these changes, including retraining workers as their roles evolve.



Safer and more efficient operations

A key benefit of automation is that it removes people from critical risk areas such as driving straddles and driving on the container terminal while straddles are operating. New fencing and security controls have now been installed in the truck grid. This also creates a safer and more efficient environment for teleoperators and truck drivers picking up and dropping off containers.

Rigorous testing and training

Before we go live, each straddle will have undergone 500 hours of testing to ensure it will work in the live environment. The initial testing, by manufacturer Konecranes, is now complete. To ensure minimal disruption when we go live, we are also carrying out a full operational simulation from ship to truck. We have developed a state-of-the-art virtual training programme to replicate the automated terminal. This training will soon be underway.

Over 100 staff tours of the automation test area



13,000 testing hours across the A-Strad fleet

Future of work

We understand that automation creates uncertainty for many in our team and we are committed to providing them with opportunities to upskill and retrain for the jobs of tomorrow. This will involve training people for new jobs on the port like production management, new skills on the port such as teleoperating, or new skills for work outside the port such as truck driving. Training for automation and beyond is planned to increase significantly in the new year.