

PORT OF SUNDERLAND'S NEW DIRECTOR TAKES UP POST

30/Jun/2010

Following the announcement of his appointment in April, the new Port Director of the Port of Sunderland has now taken up post. Matthew Hunt steps into a key role overseeing the continuing development of a commercially successful and financially self-sustainable port.

Cllr Paul Watson, Leader of Sunderland City Council said: "The Port of Sunderland has a strategic role as a major commercial asset for our city and Matthew Hunt's appointment is an endorsement of the City Council's confidence in its future. The development of current and new cargo-handling business, together with the effective management of the Port estate, is essential to our aims of enhancing Sunderland's prowess for attracting new investment and overseas trade in the global marketplace."

Matthew Hunt brings a wealth of experience to his new role. Having worked as Commercial Manager for the Seaham Harbour Dock Company, he spent 14 years at the Port of Tyne where he rose to the position of Commercial Director of Port Services before coming to Sunderland.

Mr. Hunt said: "I believe the Port of Sunderland is on the threshold of an exciting new era, with opportunities to build on recent successes and implement plans to increase revenue and profitability. I will be working closely with colleagues at the City Council and the Port of Sunderland Board, to develop strategies and programmes that will seek to ensure the port business achieves optimum performance and makes a favourable impact on the prosperity of the city."

The post of Port Director was created in line with the aims of the new 'Sunderland Way of Working', which has been developed by the council to achieve increased efficiency and improved services to customers.

Matthew Hunt is based at the Port of Sunderland headquarters at Capstan House on Barrack Street, Sunderland and is an Elected Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers.

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