

Port louis energy storage market

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As the country's sole maritime gateway, the Port Louis harbor plays a vital role in the national economy. It handles about 99.5 percent of the total volume of external trade, equivalent to approximately 8 million tons of cargo annually, and directly contributes two percent to Mauritius's GDP. The Mauritius Ports Authority (MPA) regulates and controls the port sector and manages port infrastructure, related facilities, and equipment. The Cargo Handling Corporation (CHC) Ltd. is responsible for the management of all port handling operations pertaining to containers and general cargo.

The government actively promotes the ocean economy and sees the port as a potential regional container transshipment hub. Since commencing operations in 1999, the container terminal has experienced steady growth in container trade, as well as a moderate growth in transshipment trade. In October 2017, the new container terminal, featuring an extended quay length of 800 meters and a dredged depth of 16.5 meters, was inaugurated. As a result of the extension works, the capacity of the terminal increased from 550,000 TEUs (Twenty-Foot Equivalent Unit) to 800,000 TEUs. Port Louis is now one of the deepest ports in the southwest Indian Ocean, capable of handling container vessels with a draft of about 15.0 meters and a capacity of 12,000 TEUs.

The contract for the construction of a 7,500 square meter cruise ship terminal in the Port Louis harbor, valued at \$21 million, was awarded in August 2019. The new facility, which has a capacity of 4,000 passengers, would accommodate both cruise and the inter-island passenger traffic. According to the MPA, the project, which has been delayed due to the pandemic, is due to be completed by February 2023 and operational by October 2023.

(Total market size = (total local production + imports) - exports) Units: \$ thousands Source: i) Bank of Mauritius, ii) Statistics Mauritius, iii) Embassy Estimates

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