

## **Mersin International Port invests 250 million TL in technologically advanced and environmentally-friendly tugboat**

On 22 May 2024, the leading Mediterranean port Mersin International Port (MIP) in Türkiye, ceremoniously launched MIP-5, its new environmentally-friendly and high tech tugboat in the presence of VIPs, and MIP staff and management.

The new 250 million TL state-of-the-art tugboat has two highly efficient 3516E Diesel engines with a tractive force of 75 tonnes, that can each produce an impressive 1,600 rpms and 2,200 kw. This is significantly more powerful than the current tugboats in Turkish ports that have a tractive power of between 45 and 60 tonnes. This allows the boat to effortlessly perform all port operations, including the handling of the largest container ships of up to 400 metres.

MIP-5 is 24.4 metres long, 12 metres wide and has a draft of 5.5 metres. It is also equipped with top-of-the-line deck and machinery equipment, including the FIFI-1 fire extinguishing system, in the event the tugboat is called upon to help fight a fire in the port area.

Moreover, the MIP-5 tugboat is equipped with a Selective Catalytic oxide Reactor (SCR) that reduces the Nitrogen Oxide (NOx) emissions by up to 75 percent compared to regular diesel powered tugboats. This makes it the first diesel powered tugboat in Türkiye to fully comply with the International Maritime Organisation Environmental Protection Emission (IMO Tier III) standards to reduce nitrogen oxide emissions.

The ceremony was attended by numerous VIPs including Rear Admiral Murat Fırat, Commander of the Turkish Mediterranean Region Garrison, İbrahim Küçük, Deputy Governor of Mersin and Administrative Administrator of Mersin Port, Ajay Kumar Singh, General Manager of MIP, Adnan Bilen, Director of Coastal Safety Mersin, members of the city protocol, as well as MIP employees.

MIP Managing Director Ajay Kumar Singh said about the launch of MIP-5, “Towage services are critical to ensure the safety, manoeuvrability and operational efficiency of ships in our port. This new fuel-efficient, environmentally-friendly tugboat demonstrates our commitment to continue delivering high quality services to our clients, while significantly reducing our greenhouse gas emissions.

**About Mersin International Port Management Inc.**

Mersin International Port Management Inc. (MIP), a joint venture between Akfen Holding and PSA International, took over T.C.D.D. Mersin Port Management for 36 years on 11 May 2007. In 2017, Mersin International Port (MIP), whose shareholders include the Australian Fund Company IFM, is connected by rail and road to Turkey industrialized cities such as Ankara, Gaziantep, Kayseri, Kahramanmaraş, Konya, as well as bordering countries such as Syria, Iraq and the Commonwealth of Independent States. It is one of the main container ports in the Mediterranean Region, with transshipment and hinterland connections to the Middle East and the Black Sea. Mersin International Port (MIP) accounts for a significant portion of Türkiye import and export volume with its wide hinterland, accessible transport facilities and successful staff. With the total amount of cargo handled annually and the available area, MIP is the largest port in Türkiye.

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