

DFDS launches new freight route linking Spain and the Netherlands

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DFDS is expanding its short sea network by launching a new weekly freight service connecting Vilagarcía in Spain with Rotterdam in the Netherlands. This service caters to industrial shippers, freight forwarders, and project cargo owners seeking reliable and sustainable transport solutions between southern and central Europe.

The launch comes as DFDS strengthens its focus on offering competitive alternatives to traditional road transport, addressing growing market demand for efficient and lower-emission logistics options. The route will initially run once per week, providing a seamless link for key cargo flows.

"This new route offers significant potential which we believe will benefit the broader market and aligns perfectly with our focus on organic growth. We are excited to establish a strong partnership with Hydro, enhancing their supply chain with improved connections to and from Northern Europe and Iberia, further demonstrating that we are a relevant strategic partner for larger companies" said Mathieu Girardin, Head of Ferry Division in DFDS.

A significant highlight of the service is a newly signed agreement with Hydro, a leading global aluminum and energy company. The partnership ensures regular weekly aluminum shipments, supporting Hydro's logistics needs while enhancing the overall volume of goods moved by sea between Spain and northern Europe.

Scheduled to commence at the end of May, the direct ferry service will provide a predictable and streamlined option for freight customers, reducing road congestion and emissions by shifting volumes to maritime transport. With a focus on reliability, flexibility, and sustainability, DFDS continues to reinforce its commitment to developing a robust short-sea network across Europe.

"In Hydro, we are always looking for ways to optimize operations. Logistics play a key part in keeping our business running 24/7. The cooperation with DFDS will contribute to further implementation of our roll on-roll off (RoRo) solution, which is safer and more efficient compared to traditional methods. Smarter shipping saves both money and emissions and ensures our customers get their products on time.", said Gerd Aalborg Aas, Vice President and Head of Logistics in Hydro's Aluminium Metal

business area.

The RoRo (roll on – roll off) solution rolls aluminum products bound for customers onto cargo ships, eliminating the need for cranes and reducing safety risks from hanging loads. It also increases efficiency by reducing loading time in half, allowing ships to reduce speed and still deliver on time. This results in less fuel consumption and lower emissions.

DFDS will operate Belgia Seaways on the route with a capacity of 2660 lanemeters.

(DFDS)