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By Luisa Cheshire

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APM Terminals launches India facility

APM Terminals has unveiled its first cold storage facility, integrated with a container freight station, in India



The new facility is based in the suburbs of Chennai

Dutch container terminal operating company APM Terminals has inaugurated its first state-of-the-art cold storage warehouse in India, the firm announced today (18 April).

The facility, located in Ponneri - a Chennai suburb, officially opened on 12 April and will ensure reliable and stable transport of cargo, including goods such as fish, fruits, medicines, and specialty chemicals, APM Terminals said in a press release.

The facilities will provide refrigerated container plug-in facilities for cold warehousing, with services ranging from customs examination and clearance under controlled temperature, value-added services like palletization and packaging, on-wheel customs seal verification, and bonded cargo movement to different seaports and airports. The services are available for both domestic and international

import/export customers, the firm said.

"Spread over 10,000m2, the cold chain solutions facility is the first of its kind in South India as it is integrated with APM Terminals' container freight station," an APM Terminals spokesman said. "The facility will offer customs clearance facilitation and proximity to the ports of Chennai, Ennore, Kattupalli and Krishnapattanam, with round the clock accessibility. An additional cold chain solutions facility for domestic use has been built in close proximity to the container freight station."

The facilities were inaugurated by M Ajit Kumar, chief commissioner of customs, Chennai Zone in the presence of Dries van Dongen, global head of inland services for APM Terminals, officials from different government offices, and key customers during a ceremony on 12 April.

"We are committed to providing integrated specialty warehousing services globally," van Dongen said. "APM Terminals is constantly looking for ways that we can best address the supply chain needs of our customers. India has seen an increasing demand for temperature and humidity controlled products especially frozen foods and pharmaceutical products for both domestic consumption as well as international export. In line with this trend, and backed by our strong experience in handling temperature controlled cargo, we've invested in not only offering global standards of cold chain solutions, but also offering export-import cold chain solutions within our container freight station, for the first time in South India."

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