

Container traffic grows by 85.78% at the Port of Sagunto from January to October

- **Car traffic and solid bulk also rose with increases of 0.91% and 2.03%, respectively.**

Sagunto, 24th November 2016. - The Port of Sagunto ended the month of October with **total traffic of 5,290,013 tonnes**, down 1.69% compared to the same period in 2015. On the up side, container traffic continued to rise with a total volume of 50,537 TEUs, (+85.78%) in the ten months up to the end of October. Likewise, **car traffic** also increased (+0.91%), with a total of 148,595 vehicles being handled. In this sense, Sagunto was classed as the best port in Spain for its speed in allocating cars to storage areas and the flexibility of its services, obtaining a score of 4.1 out of 5 in the report prepared by the Spanish Association of Car and Lorry Manufacturers (ANFAC).

Containerised general goods went up by 87.19% to a total of 463,322 tonnes in the first ten months of the year. Meanwhile, **conventional general cargo** decreased by 6.88% to 1,890,864 tonnes. This decrease was mainly due to poorer steel product traffic, which fell by 9.67% to 1.47 million tonnes; though cars and their parts increased by 1.17% to 269,000 tonnes.

Solid bulk, with 1,003,137 tonnes, grew 2.03% compared to the same period in the previous year. Cement and clinker traffic went down by 42.83% to 284,000 tonnes, natural and artificial fertilizers rose by 16.37% to 268,000 tonnes, and finished construction materials increased by 2,148.80% to 230,000 tonnes.

Liquid bulk decreased by 8.52% to a total of 1,919,702 tonnes. This was driven by the poor results of goods such as natural gas which fell by 9.37% to 1.71 million tonnes and chemical products which decreased by 4.20% to 145,000 tonnes.

Port Authority of Valencia data

Valenciaport ended the month of October with an increase of 1.31% in total goods traffic. According to the latest Port Authority of Valencia statistics, the three ports managed by the Port Authority of Valencia (Valencia, Sagunto and Gandia) handled 59,453,294 tonnes of traffic in the first ten months of the year. Foreign trade increased with **imports and exports** rising by 1.12% to a total of 17,821,525 tonnes. **Imports** went up by 4.58%, to 6,496,873 tonnes, thanks to brisk trade with countries such as the United States (+8.39%) and India (+28.63%), whilst trade flows with China (-1.01%), Italy (-3.88%) and France (-5.25%) fell. On the other hand, the negative trend in **exports** continued with a decrease of 0.75% to 11,324,652 tonnes due to

slower trade with countries such as Italy (-5.23%), Saudi Arabia (-18.57%) and Morocco (-1.62%). On a positive note, Valenciaport's exports to China and the United States increased by 7.26% and 10.10%, respectively. In terms of **overall traffic**, figures increased by 1.32% during this period.

In the cumulative period until October, **container traffic** continued to grow and increased by 1.65%. In total, 3,946,155 TEUs were handled during the first ten months of the year. These positive figures were due to an increase in foreign container traffic, which rose by 4.44%. Specifically, **containerised exports** rose by 4.30% to 920,267 TEUs while **imports** increased by 4.58% to 926,200 TEUs. In turn, the latest statistics revealed that the downward trend in **transit** traffic has slowed, down just 0.68% to October.

Containerised general cargo recorded a rise of 2.74, with total traffic standing at 44,887,889 tonnes. This included goods such as construction materials which rose by 0.83% to 4.41 million tonnes; other goods which went up by 5.49% to 1.78 million tonnes, and chemical products which increased by 11.38% to 1.52 million tonnes.

Conventional general cargo, on the other hand, fell by 0.46% to 9,127,594 tonnes. This decrease was mainly due to the lower volumes of goods such as steel products, which fell by 9.92% to 1.52 million tonnes. Conversely, cars and their parts registered an increase of 11.55%, rising to 1.27 million tonnes. A breakdown of this traffic revealed that the ports of Sagunto and Valencia handled 640,492 **vehicles** to October, up 13.94% on the same period last year. Similarly, **Ro-ro traffic** grew by 6.80% to 7,630,261 tonnes.

Liquid bulk went down by 8.65% in the first ten months of the year to 2,948,777 tonnes. This drop came from reduced volumes of natural gas traffic, which fell by 9.37% to 1.71 million tonnes; of gas oil, which went down by 7.38% to 385,000 tonnes, and of chemicals which decreased by 1.13% to 282,000 tonnes.

Solid bulk traffic also fell in the first ten months of the year by 3.92% to 2,100,948 tonnes. Cereal and flours (-7.25%) stood at 714,000 tonnes, cement and clinker (-31.25%) fell to 442,000 tonnes, and natural and artificial fertilizers (-7.42%) dropped to 386,000 tonnes.

Passenger traffic

During the first ten months of the year, a total of 761,081 people used the Port of Valencia, representing a 15.04% increase over the same period in 2015. Of these passengers, 423,915 people used ferry services (+31.21%) while 337,166 passengers

were cruise passengers on one of the 146 cruise calls, a figure which was down 0.40% on the previous year.

Traffic by countries and geographical areas

The five countries shipping the largest volume of goods through Valenciaport in the first ten months of the year were Spain, with 7.30 million tonnes (+7.24%), China, with 5.69 million tonnes (+16.38%), Algeria, with 4.79 million tonnes (-0.62%); Italy, with 4.07 million tonnes (-4.10%) and the United States, with 3.59 million tonnes (-2.27%). In terms of **geographical areas**, the largest traffic volumes were with the Mediterranean and Black Sea with 16.26 million tonnes, down 3.79%, and with the Far East, with 8.22 million tonnes, up 14.25%.