

Valencia port retakes its growth rate with the increase of container, cruise and car traffic

- Container traffic returns to the positive path with a throughput of 3,536,654 TEUs (+ 0.26%) from January to September.
- Import and export container traffic increased by 4.5%
- Vehicle traffic grew by 17.72% to a total of 575,399 units.
- Cruise traffic grew by 1.84% in this period.

Valencia, 24th October 2016. - September figures, and with them, the accumulated during the first three quarters of the year, allows checking the recovery of the growth path of Valencia port in all its essential activities. Valenciaport already moves more containers, cars, cruises and tons than last year, from January to September.

According to the latest Port Authority of Valencia statistics, the three ports managed by PAV (Valencia, Sagunto and Gandia) handled a total of 53,320,782 tons (more than 0.44% during the same period last year).

In the cumulative period until September, **container traffic** handled 3,536,654 TEUs, (+0.26%), that represents a return to the positive path of this type of traffic. These positive figures were due to an increase in **foreign container traffic**, which rose by 4.55%. Specifically, **containerised exports** rose by 5% to 803,109 TEUs while **imports** increased by 4.11% to 836,059 TEUs. On the contrary, the **transit traffic** slowed down 3.27% to a total of 1,870,486 TEU.

Containerised general cargo recorded a rise of 1.32%, with total traffic standing at 40,112,195 tonnes. This included goods such as construction materials which rose by 1.01% to 3.98 million tonnes; other goods which went up by 4.84% to 1.59 million tonnes; and chemical products which increased by 11.60% to 1.38 million tonnes.

Conventional general cargo, on the other hand, remains stable with 8,269,844 tonnes from January to September. This section highlights good movements such as cars and their parts which grew by 14.93% to 1.16 million tonnes and. steel products which fell by 10.65% to 1.35 million tonnes. According to the Port Authority of Valencia statistics, the ports of Valencia and Sagunto handled 575,399 **vehicles** to September, up 14.72% on the same period last year. Similarly, **ro-ro traffic** rose by 2.50% to 3,625,771 tonnes.

Liquid bulk went down by 12.02% in the first nine months of the year to 2,640,341 tonnes. This drop came from reduced volumes of natural gas, which fell by 13.12% to 1.55 million tonnes; of gas oil, which went down by 14.23% to 305,000 tonnes; and chemicals which decreased by 5.16% to 247,000 tonnes.

Solid bulk, on the contrary, rose by 4.73% to 1,947,134 tonnes. Cereals and flours grew by 15.92% to 683,000 tonnes while natural and artificial fertilizers went down by 14.24% to 320,000 tonnes.

Passenger traffic

During the first nine months of the year, a total of 662,737 people used the Port of Valencia, representing a 16.37% increase over the same period in 2015. Of these passengers, 386,624 people used ferry services (+29,57%) while 276,113 passengers were cruise passengers on one of the 122 cruise calls, a figure which rose by 1.84%.

Traffic by countries and geographical areas

The five countries shipping the largest volume of goods through Valenciaport in the first nine months of the year were Spain, with 6.60 million tonnes (+7.53%), China, with 5.08 million tonnes (+14.73%), Algeria, with 4.43 million tonnes (-0.52%), Italy, with 3.64 million tonnes (-5.58%), and the United States, with 3.22 million tonnes (-4.08%). In terms of **geographical areas**, the largest traffic volumes were with the Mediterranean and Black Sea with 14.81 million tonnes, down 3.43%, and with the Far East, with 7.3 million tonnes, up 11.82%.