Paper traffic grew by 14.50% in 2016 in the port of Gandia

Gandia, 24th January 2017. - The port of Gandia ended 2016 with a 14.50% increase in paper and pulp traffic. Total traffic of these goods rose by 181,159 tonnes, consolidating the port as the reference enclave for this type of cargo.

In terms of **total traffic**, according to statistical bulletin of the Port Authority of Valencia, the port of Gandia has handled 351,499 tonnes in 2016, representing a decline of 8.76% compared to the previous year. Foreign trade decreased by 8.61% due to the behaviour of export traffic, which went down 36.49%. Conversely, imports increased by 13.41%.

Conventional general cargo decreased by 5.38 to a total of 344,001 tonnes. This decrease was mainly due to chemical products, which fell by 35.85% to 68,000 tonnes; and of wood and cork, which went down by 12.07% to 65,000 tonnes.

Containerised general cargo decreased by 72.45% to a total of 4,860 tonnes due to the decrease in the throughput of fruits, vegetables and pulses, which fell by 70.09% to 4,020 tonnes.

Port Authority of Valencia data

Valenciaport has ended the year 2016 with **container traffic** of 4,722,273 TEU, a figure that represents an increase of 2.32% and means exceeding its best historical record. These positive figures were due to an increase in foreign container traffic, which rose by 4.99%, consolidating the site as the best platform for Spanish foreign trade by sea. Specifically, **containerized exports** increased by 4.96% with a total of 1,105,438 TEU while **imports** went up by 5.03% to 1,105,978 TEUs. **Container transit traffic** has ended the year with a light increase of 0.08%.

In terms of **total traffic**, the three ports managed by the Port Authority of Valencia (Valencia, Sagunto and Gandia) increased by 1.71% over the previous year, with a total of 71,280,984 tonnes handled. Foreign trade increased with **import-export** rising by 1.93% to a total traffic of 21,434,954 tonnes. **Exports** recorded a rise of 0.61%, to a total of 13,738,607 tonnes, thanks to good registrations of countries such as China (+ 7.22%), United States (+ 9.96%) and Morocco (+ 1.43%). Meanwhile, **imports** rose by 4.39% to 7,696,347 tonnes due to the results of countries such as France (+ 2.14%), the United States (+ 8.18%) and India (+ 29.82%) stand out. In terms of **transit traffic**, figures went up by 1.38% during 2016.

Containerised general cargo recorded a rise of 2.91%, with total traffic standing at 53,786,327 tonnes. This growth is motivated by goods such as the construction materials which rose by 2.29% to 5.33 million tonnes; other goods which went up by 4.76% to 2.11 million tonnes; and chemical products which increased by 9.47% to 1.81 million tonnes.

Conventional general cargo decreased by 0.78% in 2016. In total, during this year, 10,749,993 tonnes of this type of goods has been handled. This decrease is mainly due to the decline in steel products, which fell by 4.57% to 1.84 million tonnes. Conversely, cars and their parts registered and increase of 10.69% to 1.54 million tonnes. A breakdown of this traffic revealed that the ports of Valencia and Sagunto handled 774,708 **vehicles** in 2016, up 12.37% on the previous year. These figures consolidate Valenciaport as one of the main logistics platforms in Spain for the automotive sector. Similarly, **ro-ro traffic** grew by 4.33% to 8,914,957 tonnes.

Liquid bulk, meanwhile, closed the year with a decrease of 0.30% and a total traffic of 3,803,068 tonnes. This heading includes movements of goods such as natural gas (+ 2.82%) to 2.30 million tonnes; gas oil (+ 0.72%) to 481,000 tonnes; and chemicals (-1.73%) to 336,000 tonnes.

Solid bulk also fell by 7.67%, to a total traffic of 2,478,928 tonnes. This decrease is mainly motivated by goods such as cereals and flours which decreased by 9.66% to 897,000 tonnes; natural and artificial fertilizers which fell by 3.94% to 491,000 tonnes; and cement and clinker which went down by 34.64% to 472,000 tonnes.

Passenger traffic

According to data from the statistical bulletin of the Port Authority of Valencia, in 2016 403,264 people arrived in Valencia aboard one of the 181 tourist cruise calls that have arrived at the port, representing an increase of 7.66% over the previous year. Meanwhile, 504,881 passengers used regular line services, an increase of 35.16%. In total, during the 2016 year, 908,145 people used the port of Valencia for their maritime journeys, which represents an increase of 21.39% compared to 2015.

Traffic by country and geographical area

The five countries shipping the largest volume of goods through Valenciaport in were: Spain, with 8.48 million tonnes (+4.98%); China, with 6.76 million tonnes (+16.98%); Algeria, with 5.63 million tonnes (-2.73%); Italy, with 4.88 million tonnes (-3.08%); and the United States, with 4.37 million tonnes (-0.48%). In terms of **geographical areas**, the largest traffic volumes were with Mediterranean and Black

Sea stands out with traffic of 19.38 million tonnes (-4.83%); and the Far East, with traffic of 9.85 million tonnes (+14.70%).