



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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## **RCL launches a new billion-baht container vessel, with the hope to achieve 10% growth this year.**

**It says Thailand export drop has not significantly affected the businesses while continuous growth projected for the next five years.**

Regional Container Lines Public Company Limited, a Thai-based container shipping line, has launched a new one-billion-baht vessel with world class innovations complying with international maritime organization (IMO). The company's Q1 performance has reportedly grew by 8% with half-year revenue expected to reach target as planned. By the end of 2019, the revenue is expected to reach up to 10% growth despite weaker global demand growth. Positive cargo growth is projected for shipping businesses, particular in Intra Asia, in the next five years.

RCL today introduces a new container vessel worth over 30 million dollars (one billion baht), expanding its fleet to 48 container vessels for its shipping services. At present, RCL is the only Thai container shipping line with its own fleet of container vessels and has been in business for more than four decades. The company operates five core business units that providing total solution which include: 1. Ship owner 2. Ship operator 3. Ship management 4. Value-added logistics services and 5. Port operator both in Bangkok and Laem Chabang.



In addition, the company also collaborates with its own subsidiaries to provide broad range of services such as container freight station, trucking, warehouse and distribution centers, container yard, and inland container depot and so on.

**MR. TWINCHOK TANTHUVANIT**  
**SVP (Chief of Regions / Operations / Business Development)**

Mr. Twinchok Tanthuwani, RCL's SVP (Chief of Regions / Operations / Business Development), reveals that the company is currently the only Thai shipping service operator which has its own vessels, containers, and fully-integrated logistics services. The company currently own and operates 48 vessels in its fleet, with two additional new vessels has just been added to the fleet. "Today, the third vessel has been delivered and one more to come later in this year, all of which will carry Thai flag."

"The company's shipping businesses cover all over Asia region including India sub-con and Middle east. We have more than 40 regular shipping routes and can distribute cargo to more than 60 major destinations throughout the regions. We operate all sizes of vessels, ranging from 200 TEUs up to 8,000 TEUs.

We are considered one of the Thai companies achieving international standard services, which are on par with major shipping lines from China, Japan, South Korea and Europe, who are offering the same service coverage in these regions."

Mr. Twinchok adds that RCL business is expected to generate around 17-billion-baht annual revenue and the business has been growing steadily since 2016. In the Q1 of 2019, the company could generate 133 million US dollars (approximately 4,250 million baht), representing 11% growth comparing to the same period last year, which could generate 120 million US dollars. It is confident that the revenue in the second half of 2019 will continue to grow and meet 8 – 10% growth by the end of 2019. In terms of business operations, aside from increasing the number of ships to its fleet, it has also brought in modern innovation and technologies, such as robotic system, machine learning, Business Intelligence and Big Data system that will increase customer satisfactions, lower repetitive errors, as well as improve cost efficiency.



"We realize that the world is changing very rapidly today, so does the market competition. Every company improves their business continuously, so we can't stand still. During the past 2-3 years, cargo growth globally has been fluctuated by global, hard to predict, economy condition and geopolitics situations across the globe. We can say that our business continues growing despite such turbulent but not totally immune to."

This is because we have a full range of service in shipping-related businesses, continues improvement in our IT system and giving more focus in human capital development. The company is preparing for digital disruption through bringing in technologies such as robotic system, big data, machine learning and Business intelligence to improve our efficiency," Mr. Twinchok adds.



## CAPTAIN KULKIAT BOONTHIAM CAPTAIN OF " LALIT BHUM" VESSEL

Captain Kulkiat Boonthiam adds that, aside from efficient management system, which is important for the shipping business, the ship itself is also very important. Therefore, the company also put emphasis on the maintenance and invest in buying new ships for replacement. "We've just received a new ship which we name as 'Latit Bhumi' meaning the land of beauty. It is 172-meter long, 27.50-meter wide, and 45.30-meter high. It can run at the speed of 19 knots, can carry up to 1,668 TEUS, and requires only 18 regular crews.



The highlight of this ship is the more advanced yet fuel-saving technologies, which will help reducing the carbon footprint by 20%. With the concern for the sustainable environment, this vessel has also installed with state of the art scrubber technology to reduce the amount of sulfur released in the air from 3.5% to only 0.5% and ballast water treatment that prevent releasing alien species into the ocean, which is harmful to local marine biodiversity.



At the 'LALIT BHUM' launch and naming ceremony event, The event sees the participation of business partners, trading partners, employees, representative of government agencies, and VIP guests who pay a visit and witness the ship. There are also demonstrations of using various technological tools and showcase the life of seafarer. It draws huge attention from all the event participants.



Should you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Ms.Walaiporn Khampho / Senior Executive (Corporate Secretary) via Tel : (662) 296 1093 or email : [walaiporn@rclgroup.com](mailto:walaiporn@rclgroup.com)