

Press release

Geneva, 10 November 2009

Cotecna inaugurates a new scanner at Port Autonome de Lomé in Togo

On Monday, November 2, 2009, Cotecna, one of the world's leading trade inspection, security and certification companies, inaugurated a new Gantry HCV 6035 6MeV scanner at the Port Autonome de Lomé.

This latest generation scanner, able to distinguish between organic and inorganic material and to detect radioactive materials, is the first of its type to be installed by Cotecna in West Africa. Its installation integrates perfectly into the Port Autonome de Lomé (PAL) development projects currently underway and meets the inspection security concerns of the Togolese Customs with regard to action against fraud, importation of contraband goods, weapons and drug smuggling.

This relocatable scanner is housed in a reinforced concrete tunnel and equipped with electronic security and surveillance cameras. The flow of scanned containers has increased from 17 to 23 containers per hour since the installation of the new relocatable scanner.

More than two hundred guests, political figures and senior state officials including Pascal Bodjona, Senior Minister and government spokesman, attended the inauguration ceremony.

Mr Ayassor, Minister of Economy, Finance and Privatisations, emphasized the potential improvement in the performance of the Togolese Customs thanks to this new equipment. He explained that PAL is one of the most high-performance and secure ports in the African subregion with regard to shipping importation inspection, thus allowing economic operators to complete clearance formalities more quickly.

During the ceremony, a number of Customs officers and employees trained by Cotecna in comparative diagnostic image analysis were awarded a diploma following a training course held over several weeks.

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Note to editors:**1. Cotecna Group**

Founded in 1974, the Cotecna Group, one of the world's leading trade inspection companies, offers a wide range of trade facilitation services, inspection and security services and certification of quality standards. Cotecna is a pioneer in areas such as destination inspection, risk management and scanner integration projects. Cotecna also offers Customs modernisation programmes, Customs valuation assistance, trade security solutions and commercial inspections. The Cotecna Group has approximately 4000 employees and specialised agents in close to 100 offices world-wide and manages 16 government inspection contracts.
www.cotecna.com.

2. Cotecna Togo

Cotecna began its partnership with the Togolese government in 1995 with a Pre-shipment Inspection Programme. This programme has been under constant development in order to adapt to the modernisation efforts of the Togolese Customs authorities and in 2003 saw the installation of its first scanner combined with a Computerized Risk Analysis System (SIAR®). In 2006, the inspection programme evolved towards Destination Inspection, which speeds up the Customs clearance process. The Cotecna Togo team of almost 50 people continues to provide quality services in the areas of scanner operation, Customs valuation, setting Customs rates and risk analysis.