

# Automated Container Terminals

## Automation of TraPac Terminal, Los Angeles



Port Executive Management Seminar  
Merida, Mexico


**CH2MHILL®**

# Virginia International Gateway (2007)





**Global Terminal, NJ  
(2014)**



**TraPac, Los Angeles**  
**Phase 1 – 2014**  
**Phase 2/3 - 2015**  
**Build-out - 2018**

# Why Automate?

- **Increased efficiency, reliability and safety**
- **Maximizes the utilization of yard capacity**
- **Capacity to handle large ships**
- **Environmentally friendly**
- **Helps Cargo Terminals stay competitive**



# Acronyms

**STS = Ship-To-Shore Crane**

**RTG = Rubber Tired Gantry Crane**

**ASC = Automated Stacking Crane**

**SC = Automated Shuttle Carrier**



# Non-automated container terminal operations



Vessel →



UTR  
(Yard Chassis) →



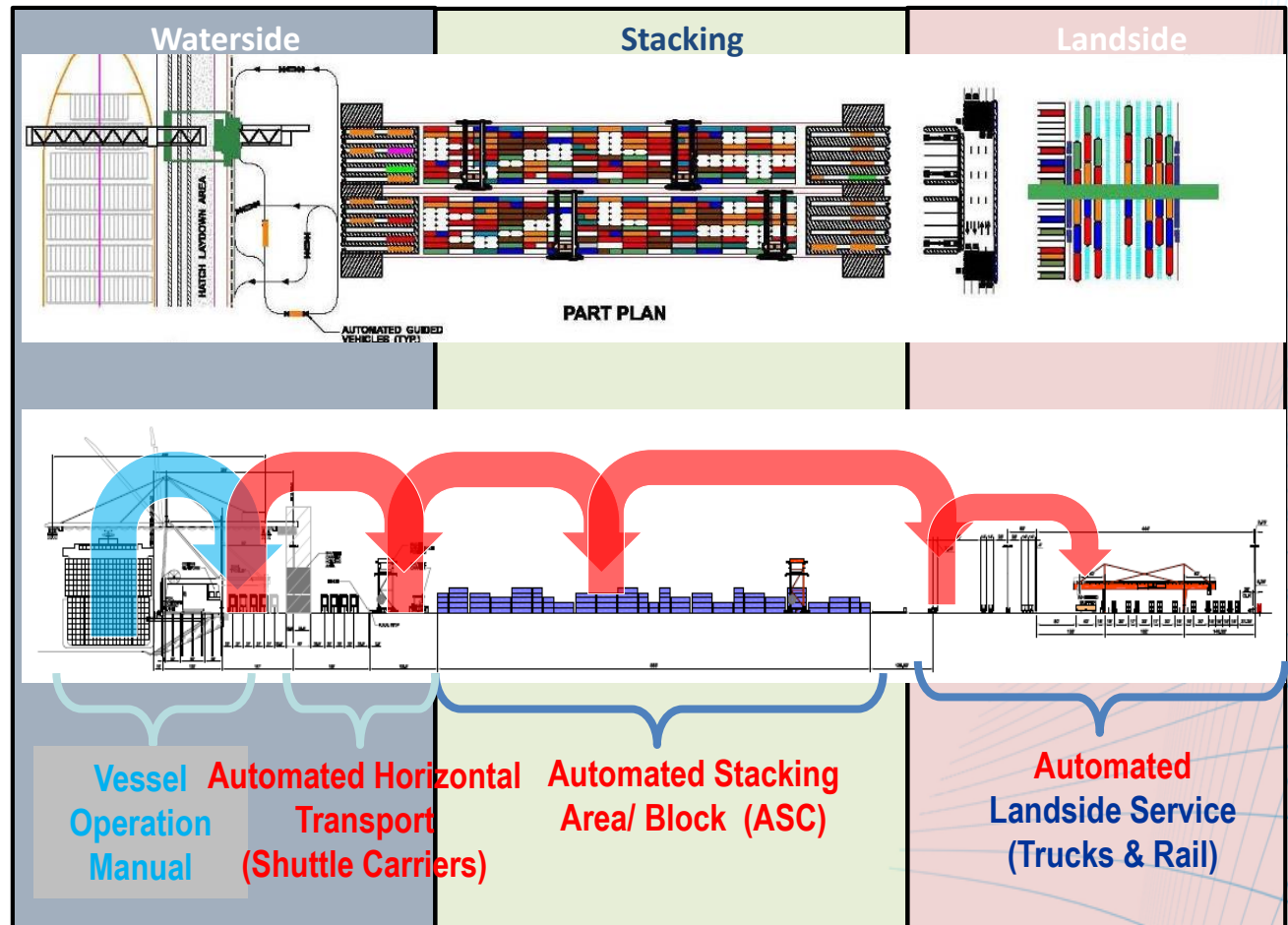
RTG →



Truck



# Automated Operations





# Automated Stacking Cranes (ASC)s

- **Stacking Ability:**
  - 1 over 5 containers (Stack 5 High)
- **Specifications:**
  - Dimensions –  
23.77 m H x 25.60 m W
  - Weight –  
230 Tons
- **Operated by:**
  - TOS/TLS



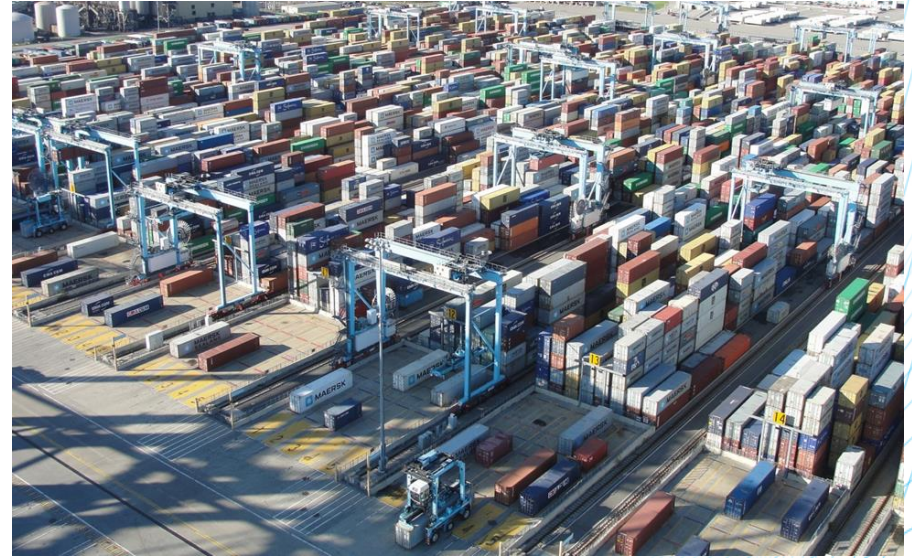
# Horizontal Transport

## Automated Shuttle Carriers (SC)s

**Stacking Ability:**  
1 over 2 High



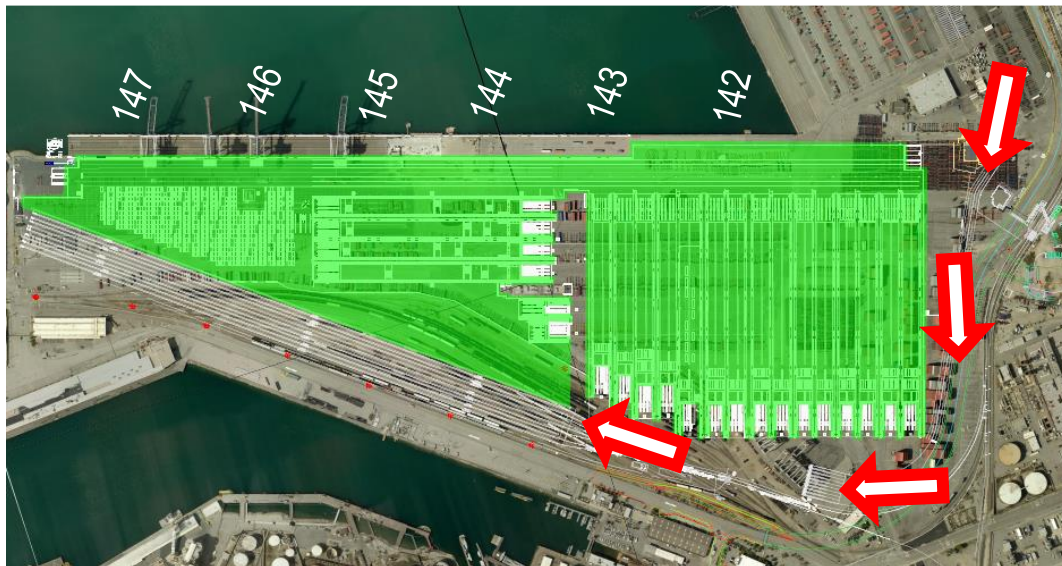
# Key Terminal Features





# Port of Los Angeles

★ **TraPac**  
**Berths 142 – 147**



# Scope



**Project Site In Construction**

- 200 Acres (81 Hectares)
- Throughput 1.6 M TEU)
- 19 Automated Stacking Blocks
- 2 Mini Automated Stacking Block
- On dock rail yard



**Re-Developed Terminal**

- Total Equipment:
  - 39 – 8 wide ASCs
  - 1 – 10 Wide ASC
  - 17 – Automated Shuttle Carriers
  - 2 – ARMGs for rail yard

# Automated Operations at TraPac



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# Unique Features at TraPac

- **Fully automated both waterside & landside ASC block operations**
- **SCs deployed in conjunction with ASCs Blocks**
- **Containers transferred directly from waterside area to on-dock rail yard**
- **Two mini ASC blocks for hot cargo**
- **SCs uses magnets in pavement for navigation**

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# Challenges

- **Irregular Shaped Terminal**
- **Integrate Crane Equipment, Serving Utilities, Operations & Infrastructure Design**
- **Maintain Terminal Operation During Construction**
- **Existing Underground Utilities & Chemically Impacted Soil**
- **Meet Precise Crane Manufacturer Parameters**
- **Power System Load Estimation & Infrastructure**





# Collaborative approach between POLA, CH2M HILL, TraPac, and Cargotec led to operations, equipment, & infrastructure design that is fully integrated



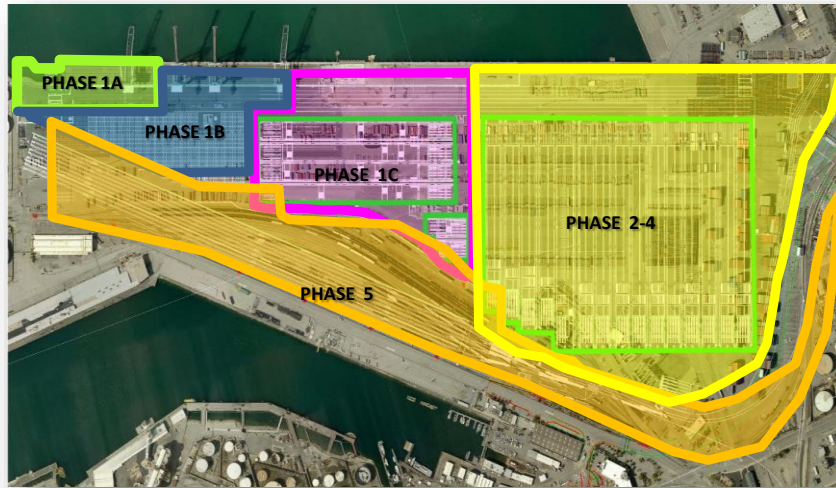
**Civil Construction and Crane Equipment Integration**



**Workshops and Weekly Meetings**



# Phasing and coordination with TraPac helps maintain terminal operations during construction

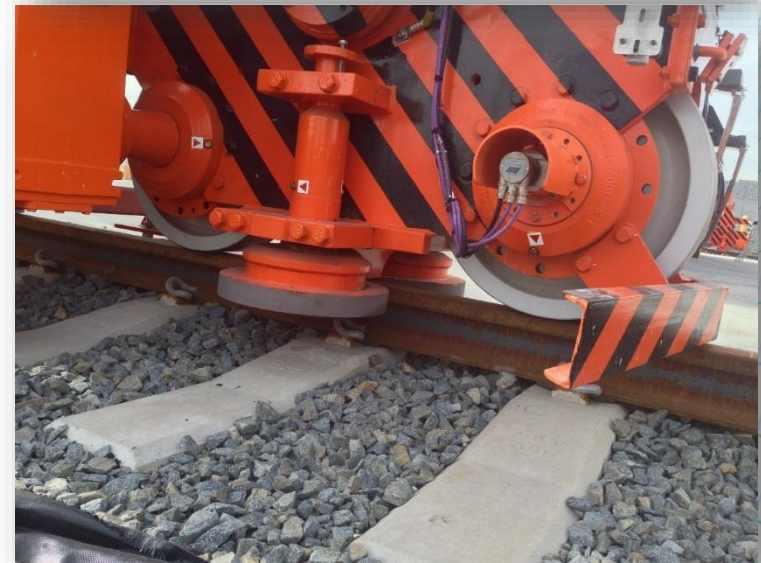
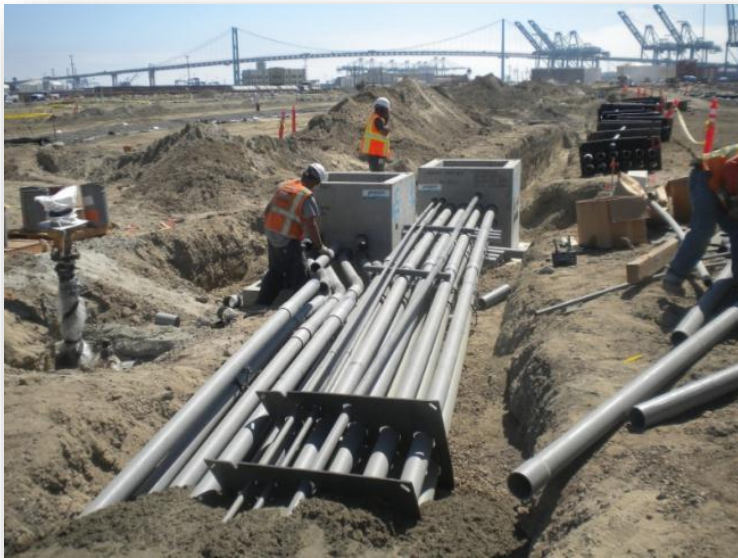


Phasing of Construction Activity



Berth 142-147 Active During Construction

# TraPac Los Angeles Construction



# Lessons Learned

- **Automation is a paradigm shift in container terminal design**
- **Crane equipment, operations & infrastructure design should be integrated for smooth operation**
- **Success is dependent on collaboration between all parties**
- **Precise layout of rail, fences, utilities, duct banks, manholes, & equipment pads are needed in the field.**
- **Demarcation of work for all entities**
- **Adapting foreign equipment to U.S. codes and standards**
- **Continuous communication is Key!**

