

Alliance of the Ports of Canada, the Caribbean, Latin America and the United States

Recruitment Techniques for Sourcing Public-Private Partnerships

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Operating Models of U.S. Container Terminals



TOP 10 U.S. CONTAINER PORTS BY TEUS (2014)

- Approximately 25% of the top 10 container ports in the U.S. are operated by port authorities
- Approximately 75% U.S. port authorities follow a landlord model
 - Terminal leases primarily held by 3 types of lessees:
 - ~59% held by carriers or carrier-affiliated operators
 - ~33% held by institutional financial investors
 - ~8% held by family/private operators
 - Percentage held is determined by 2013 TEU volume by equity, although breakdown by number of terminals held by each party results in nearly identical numbers
- Similar data on bulk terminals is difficult to obtain, although generally, private and financial investors have a much larger presence in the space

The vast majority of North American container port terminals are leaseholds on publicly awarded land





Carriers Are Under Significant Financial Pressure

- The financial stress has seen the rise of alliances in addition to mergers between liners:
 - NOL/APL in preliminary talks with CMA CGM and Maersk (Nov-14)
 - CSCL and Cosco in early stages of merger discussions (Aug-14)
 - Hapag-Lloyd and CSAV completed merger (Dec-14)
 - Star Bulk Carriers merged with Oceanbulk Shipping (Jun-14)
- Many are levering equity through sale of minority stakes, retaining controlling interest while bringing on strong financial partners, recent examples include:
 - NYK sold 49% stake in NYK Ports to Macquarie Infrastructure Partners III (Dec-14)
 - APMT looked to divest 49% of PANYNJ terminal to Brookfield (Nov-14)
 - Edgestone Capital Partners and National Bank acquired 14% stake in Logistec (Jun-14)
 - K-Line sold 30% stake in two west coast terminal leases to Ports America (Jul-14)
 - Global Infrastructure Partners acquired 35% stake in global TIL terminal portfolio (Apr-13)

Carriers have limited capital market access with little cash available for terminal improvements given the vessel order book and economic pressures





Changes in Marine Terminal Valuations





Publicly available EV/EBITDA transaction comparables average ~17x over the last 3 years

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Traditional Role of Port Authorities

- Core business of landlord port authorities
 - Improvement of infrastructure
 - Land creation/stabilization
 - Dredging
 - Landside access
 - Master planning and management of the port area
 - Outreach to public stakeholders
 - Worker safety
 - Environmental issues
- Despite ports' favorable cost of capital for capex, available funding is stretched thin with improvements for many terminals
 - MAGs previously provided a steady cash flow, but are now rare in leases
 - Lift charges are discounted as volumes increase successfully driving volume, but hurting cash flow
 - Port Authorities look for tax increments and grants to remain viable
- Implications on Return of Capital
 - Operating ports straining to achieve 10% return
 - Private operators look for 10-20% return
 - Some landlord ports are experiencing negative returns

Port Authorities have traditionally resisted change from the landlord model





Realizing the Value of the Enterprise

- Broad universe of financial investors interested in marine terminal assets, from infrastructure funds to public pension funds
 - Some investors require controlling interest (typically those with terminal operating capabilities)
 - Minority investors are willing to invest at risk and take market risk
 - All focus on their strategic plan existing assets, opinion on potential changes in shipping
- Port Authorities should work to re-establish active participation in the operating enterprise of gateways
 - Proactive approach to building and maintaining the gateway
 - Growth should be collaborative within the gateway instead of competitive
 - Buy back or allow leases to expire for underperforming terminals
 - Restructure into well-capitalized enterprises
 - Change land configurations to enhance the value of the gateway
 - Determine best process to realize the value of the terminal lease
 - Financial investors will show great interest in thoughtful restructuring of terminals
 - Consider terminal leases where the Port Authority retains a minority stakeholder to share in the gains of the terminal

Private operators/funds understand the value of their marine terminal enterprises – Ports need to do the same





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