

First Commercial Freight Train into Telford International Railfreight Park

23rd March 2009

First MoD freight train to visit Donnington in 18 years

The first commercial freight train rolled into the brand new Telford International Railfreight Park today, 23rd March 2009. The train was brought in by DB Schenker and was transporting 18 containers from Marchwood Military Port and Bicester to the Ministry of Defence (MoD) base at Donnington.

The train represents the first traffic into Donnington for almost 20 years. A successful trial today will open this route up to regular, routine traffic flow between Donnington and the MoD's storage and distribution depots, training areas, unit base locations and Marchwood Port. This will result in a significant reduction in the number of lorries operating between these locations.

The MoD puts a great emphasis on transporting as much material by rail as possible due to the financial savings compared to road transport as well as the positive environmental benefits. The proximity of the terminal to the MoD base significantly increases the MoD's operational logistics capability.

The use of the terminal by the MoD is welcomed by the Council and Russells following the base's long standing and positive involvement in the project's development.

The army liveried freight train was unloaded by local operations manager for John G Russell (Transport) Ltd, Colette Ranford, using a brand new Kalmar reach stacker which was delivered earlier this year.





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Further information for the media is available from: David Morgan, Public relations Officer, on 01952 382406, or email david.morgan@telford.gov.uk PR Ref