



**News Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Plans for new container terminal in Guysborough County released today**

**GUYSBOROUGH COUNTY, NOVA SCOTIA** – Melford International Terminal Inc. (Melford) announced today plans to develop a privately-funded deep-water container terminal and logistics park in Melford, Guysborough County, Nova Scotia.

With more than two years of planning already invested, the project is now entering the pre-construction permitting phase, a key element of which is the environmental assessment process. Successful completion of this phase will provide the long-awaited green light to proceed with construction.

"For the past two years we have been very busy developing a plan and determining the viability of this project," said Paul Martin, president of Melford. "Today, we are nothing short of thrilled to stand here with our partners who not only share our vision for a world-class terminal in Guysborough County, but who are committed to being part of the team that brings this vision to life."

A recent market assessment and feasibility study completed by international transportation consulting firm **TranSystems Corp** of Norfolk, Virginia, confirmed the viability of the project, identifying the Melford site as one of the best sites remaining on the east coast of North America for a new terminal.

**SSA Marine** of Seattle, Washington and Melford are jointly conducting market research and working through a due diligence process to determine SSA Marine's potential role as the terminal's operator. SSA Marine and its affiliates have more cargo terminal operations than any other company in the world, with over 150 operations in North America, South and Central America, South Africa and New Zealand.

"SSA Marine is excited to be associated with such high quality companies as Melford and CenterPoint Properties," says Bob Watters, Vice President, Director of Business Development of SSA Marine. "We are committed to quickly work through our due diligence process."

**CenterPoint Properties** of Oak Brook, Illinois will invest in Melford, and with Melford develop a 1,500 acre logistics park adjacent to the container terminal. As the owner and operator of more than 45 million square feet of industrial space (with a particular emphasis on intermodal and transportation-related development) CenterPoint is one of the largest industrial real estate developers in the United States.

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"Having a logistics park located on or as near as possible to a container terminal offers incredible advantages, from a cost reduction point of view to improved customer service," says Michael Mullen, CEO of CenterPoint. "Melford is ideally suited to capitalize on all of these benefits."

The Cape Breton and Central Nova Scotia short line, operated by **RailAmerica** will provide rail service to the Melford site through a new rail spur from the existing line at Linwood Junction. "We are delighted to be working with Melford and its partners to ensure a streamlined transportation system to meet the needs and opportunities created by this project," says John Giles, CEO of RailAmerica.

**CN – Canadian National Railway Company** – will have the capacity to handle growing container traffic to and from Atlantic Gateway ports, central Canada and the U.S. Midwest.

Throughout the course of the permitting phase, Melford and its partners will continue to market the container terminal to shippers and transportation and logistics providers. The due diligence and permitting phase is expected to conclude in early 2008, with construction beginning shortly thereafter and continuing over a period of 18-24 months.

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