TWORTY BOX has successfully completed sea trials

The prototypes of a new type of ISO container have recently made their successful maiden voyage while being shipped from Hamburg to Montreal and return. The so-called Tworty Box (Tworty = twenty + forty) allows either for the usage as a standard 20ft box or coupled with another Tworty Box as a fully utilisable standard 40ft box. At the beginning of April the boxes were loaded in coupled condition on board OOCL's container vessel "OOCL Montreal". They were shipped as shippers owned boxes on account of the Belgium headquartered LCL division of global forwarder DHL. Operated as a 40ft unit the coupled boxes were stuffed with 20 tons of break bulk cargo (mainly car parts and granulate) for Canadian consignees.

The Tworty Box has been developed to significantly reduce the shipment of 'containerised air', i.e. to significantly reduce the costly empty positioning often just caused by the imbalanced supply and demand of containers of 20ft and 40ft size. Its outside appearance resembles any standard 20ft container. However the Tworty Box is unique in that it has doors at each end, the second door opens to the inside and can only be locked from the inside. This door can be fixed to the container ceiling and with the use of its special bonding elements another Tworty Box can be joined up, thereby creating a 40ft unit of full value and standard doors at both ends. The Tworty Box prototypes have received full CSC certification for single as well as for coupled operation.

The internationally patented new type of container has been developed by Hamburg based engineering company TWORTY BOX GmbH & Co. KG, which has been founded to develop and market the innovative concept. The prototypes were constructed by converting two standard 20ft units at special container manufacturer DREHTAINER GmbH (close to Hamburg).

April 2013: Two coupled Tworty Boxes under hire of DHL were loaded at Hamburg’s advanced CTA facility on board the “OOCL Montreal” heading for Montreal