LOGISTICS

ZacPak expands warehouse portfolio with new facility in Coega IDZ

07 Feb 2024 - by Staff reporter

SACO CFR'S container freight station at the Port of Ngqura is 25,000 square meters in total size. Source: Supplied

Neutral consolidator SACO CFR is poised for a significant expansion in warehousing capabilities with the upcoming inauguration of a major container freight station (CFS) in the Coega Industrial Development Zone (IDZ).

The 25,000 square meter (sqm) facility, already operational, will be formally launched on February 29 to cater to the growing client base of the non-vessel operator (NVO).

This expansion, completed in under a year since groundbreaking in March, follows closely on the heels of ZacPak's inauguration of a 42,000 sqm facility in Mobeni near the Port of Durban six months ago.

Willie Nel, Managing Director of ZacPak, emphasizes the company's commitment to meeting the demands of a rapidly growing cargo market, stating: "The urgency with which we're expanding our freight-handling capacity is driven by the need to keep pace with demand."

The new facility in the Coega IDZ offers ZacPak increased yard space from 3000 to 8000 square meters, facilitating smoother handling of heightened cargo flows.

The state-of-the-art warehouse, spanning 4000 sqm and standing 12 meters high, provides ZacPak with the flexibility needed for efficient inventory management.

According to Nel, the planning of the new facility focused on ensuring continuous cargo throughput and constant availability of space to accommodate both general and ad-hoc cargo requirements.

Dave Graham, Group CEO, highlights the integrated approach of SACO-CFR's newbuilds, emphasizing the importance of an expanded yard space for seamless container movement.

The Coega facility is equipped to manage various types of cargo complexities, including state-vet inspections, amongst other governmental agencies.

Nel underscores the importance of having adequate space and services to ensure uninterrupted cargo flow amidst multiple inspection processes.

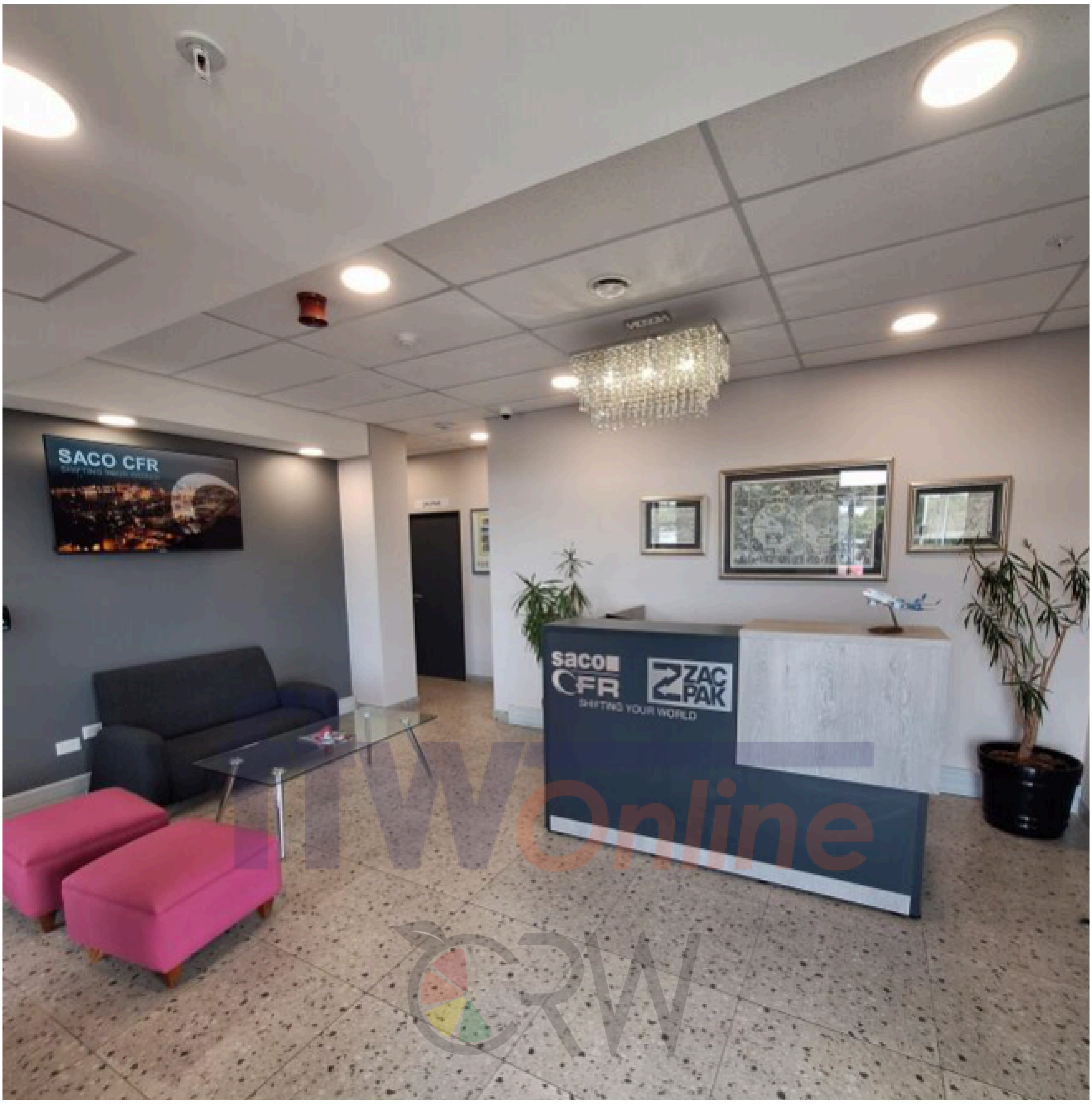
Regarding uptake at the port, Nel points out that Coega is a key player in the region's freight movement, with 86% of all Eastern Cape freight passing through Coega.

Graham expresses confidence in Coega's future growth, citing investments in the port's infrastructure and its ability to manage diverse cargo, including automotive equipment.

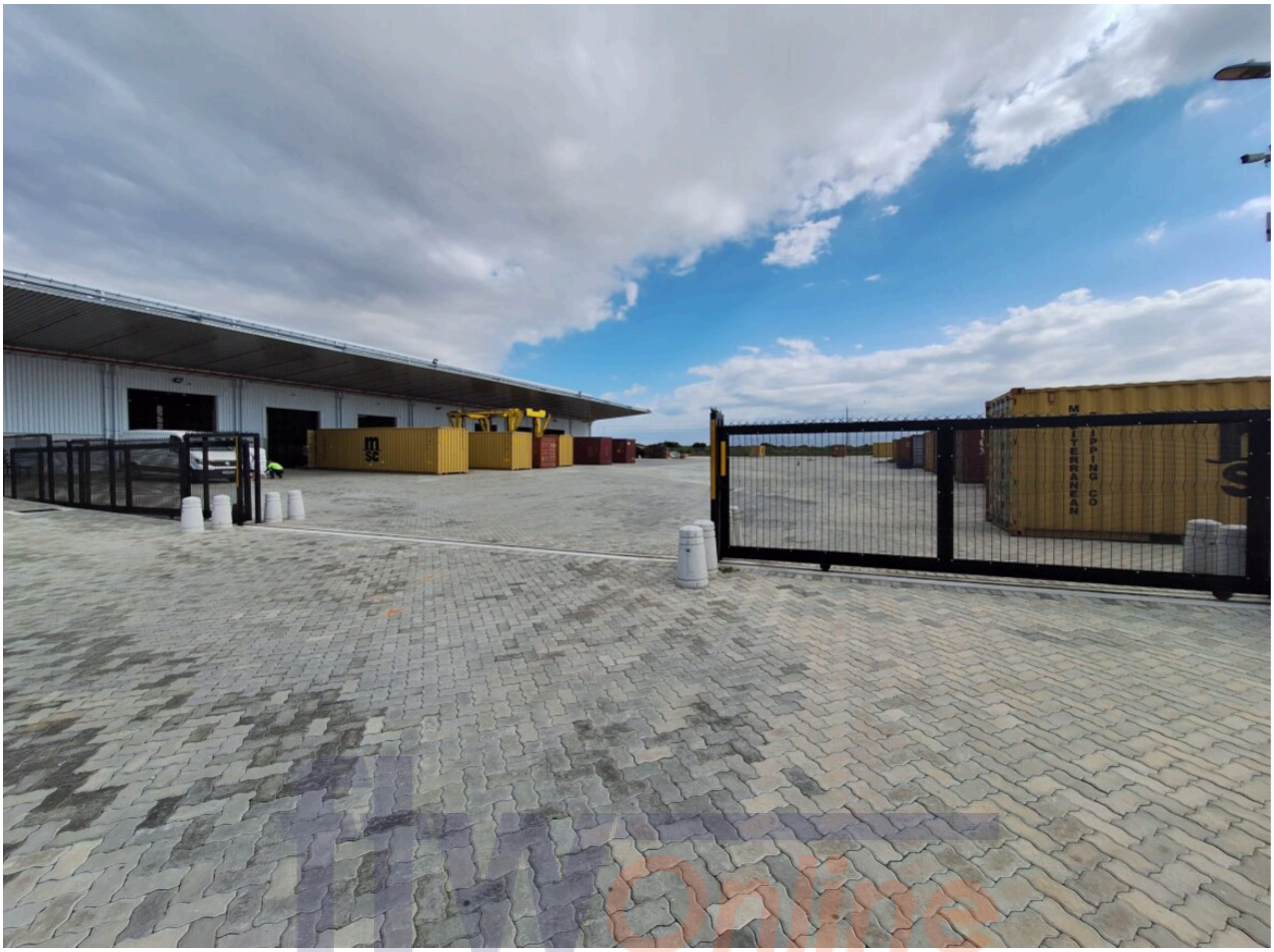
MSC's recent announcement of additional direct sailings for citrus exporters from Ngqura to Northern Europe further underscores the port's growing popularity and capacity.

This transshipment-free service every Tuesday, offered via a shipping platform for traders, is expected to attract more volume to Ngqura, especially considering reefer delays at other major ports like Cape Town and Durban.

In conclusion, ZacPak's expansion in the Coega IDZ reflects a strategic move to meet the demands of a burgeoning cargo market while capitalizing on the growth potential of Ngqura port.



The foyer to SACO CFR’s new 4000 square meter warehouse.



SACO CFR’s yard space has expanded from 3000 to 8000 square meters.

Freight News talks to Dave Graham, Group CEO of SACO CFR; and Willie Nel, Managing Director of ZacPak, about the neutral consoli