

WINE GOES BY "GREEN" BARGE TO TESCO

Wine bound for Tesco supermarkets is flowing up the Manchester Ship Canal from the Port of Liverpool in a green waterborne initiative which is taking thousands of trucks off Britain's congested roads and cutting CO2 emissions by 80%.



Peel Ports' Liverpool – Manchester Shuttle operated by a tug pushing a barge capable of carrying up to 160 20ft containers, runs weekly from the international container terminal at Liverpool to the Irlam Container Terminal 40 miles up the River Mersey and Ship Canal.

The pioneering trans-shipment service sails up to three times a week from the mouth of the Mersey to the heart of

the North West Region with a range of cargoes delivered by deep-sea shipping services at Liverpool's Royal Seaforth Container Terminal.

On its return run, the Shuttle is expected to carry export cargo plus repatriated empty containers for transfer to deep-sea shipping services out of the Port of Liverpool.

Tesco are using the shuttle to move containers of new world wines normally transported from the Port of Liverpool by road to Salford based Kingsland Wines and Spirits for packing for distribution to supermarkets across the country.

Other businesses have merely discussed switching over to transporting their cargo by waterway one day but we're actually doing it. This move may seem like taking a step back to the pre-car days of the late Victorian era - when a lot of cargo was still transported by canal – but is a step forward in helping to address today's important environmental issues. Tescos are continually reviewing alternative green methods of transporting cargo and this is our first waterborne project within the UK. We are already looking at other areas where we can move freight on waterways.

The movement of containers by water from the Port of Liverpool into Greater Manchester and the North West, not only offers the shipper economies of scale, it provides the environment with valuable breathing space. Every container carried up the Mersey and the Manchester Ship Canal takes a truck off the road, reduces the carbon footprint by 80% and dramatically reduces the damage caused to the road system.

The major road route between Liverpool and Manchester runs almost parallel with the River Mersey and Ship Canal, but the fully laden barge produces just 20% of the CO2 emissions generated by a fleet of fully loaded trucks carrying the same cargo. The River Mersey and Manchester Ship Canal is a motorway with great potential."

One corner of the processing site is only 50 yards from the Manchester Ship Canal, with the Irlam Container Terminal nearby. Most of the liquid cargo, currently amounting to 1,500 teus (20ft containers) a year, is carried by Mediterranean Shipping Company on its weekly feeder service between Antwerp and Liverpool. Trans-shipping from the Royal Seaforth Container Terminal to the Irlam Container Terminal on the Ship Canal, ensures that the containers travelling thousands of miles across the globe, stay on water rather than road to complete their journey.

The Tesco wines from Australia, New Zealand, California, Chile and Argentina, had already secured substantial green miles when Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) transferred the containers

from Felixstowe to Liverpool. The Peel Ports Shuttle achieves a further cut in road miles and establishes a near complete waterborne transport solution.

The environmental advantages are an added bonus in a logistics exercise which is a partnership between Peel Ports and Tesco.