

Baltic Coal Terminal loads largest coal cargo in Baltic ports' history

Alla Petrova, BC, Riga, 19.03.2010. [Print version](#)

Wednesday, March 17, the largest closed-end coal terminal at the Ventspils Port, Baltic Coal Terminal (BCT) completed the loading of the largest coal cargo in the Baltic ports' history.



The cargo, 87,000 tons altogether, was loaded onto the ship in a record-breaking two days. Therefore, the ship was being loaded with 43,000 tons of coal a day, said **BC Ilya Sokolov**, Chairman of the Board of Directors at the joint-stock company Baltic Coal Terminal.

The Eptalofos, registered in Piraeus, Greece (deadweight 95,000 tons) was loaded with coal from the joint-stock company *Shakhta Zarechnaya*, also becoming the largest bulk carrier in the history of the Baltic ports to be loaded with coal.

“It is safe to say that one year since the launch of the terminal, the *BCT* has risen to new heights – not only in terms of coal loading speeds and volumes, but also in terms of ship handling, as now we can also accommodate capesize class ships,” said Ilya Sokolov.

At the moment, the Greek bulk carrier with Russian coal on board is heading to Italy.

The construction of the *Baltic Coal Terminal* is one of the largest investment projects to be implemented in the territory of the Freeport of Ventspils. The total investment in the first round of construction of the new terminal and buying the technological equipment and machinery is estimated at EUR 77 million. Such large-scale investment was made because it is the first closed-end coal terminal to be built in the Baltic region, at the Port of Ventspils, that uses the most up-to-date coal handling technologies.

Latest technical solutions were employed in the construction of the terminal.

As of end-2009 (since the launch of the terminal in March of 2009), *Baltic Coal Terminal* had loaded onto outbound ships a total of 2.7 million tons of coal.

<http://www.baltic-course.com/eng/transport/?doc=24930>