



Declan McDonald, Partner, PwC presents the Ports & Harbours Operator of the Year award to Pat Keating, CEO, Shannon Foynes Port Company.

Shannon Foynes Port Company claims top national industry award

Tuesday 4 July 2017: Shannon Foynes Port Company's rising status has been affirmed after it was announced as winner of Ports & Harbours Operator of the Year at the annual Marine Industry Awards.

In the third annual hosting of the event, SFPC – which oversees commercial navigation on the Shannon Estuary and is Ireland's largest bulk port company - took the top award for ports for the first time. The win, which was announced at the awards in Galway, is a further endorsement of the success of the company, which has achieved remarkable growth year on year since 2011.

The award winners are selected by an independent panel of recognised and expert judges, representing Ireland's marine sector.

Speaking after receiving the award, SFPC CEO Pat Keating said it was validation of the collective efforts of the team. "We're delighted as this is an endorsement of the efforts being made by the company over recent years. We have really turned the business around since the downturn and today SFPC is one of the key contributors to the regional economy.

"Last year we had growth of 11.4% in year on year tonnages at our general cargo terminals, bringing us close to peak tonnages of the boom and delivering double digit growth for the second successive year. This award very much recognises those gains.

"It also recognises the ambition of the company, backed up by a capital expenditure programme by us and our customers that has seen €40m spent at Foynes alone over the past three years."

SFPC facilitates trade valued at €7.6bn per annum, with an economic impact arising from this of €1.9bn – equivalent to 1% of Ireland's entire GDP – and supports 3,372 jobs in the regional economy.

The company's ambitious plan, Vision 2041, is focussed on helping to transform the estuary into an international economic hub by taking advantage of what are among the deepest and sheltered harbours in Europe & the world.