



Enhancing safety and precision with SafePilot CAT MAX



Situated on the eastern Pacific coast of New Zealand’s South Island, the Port of Timaru is a major cargo hub and is especially important for the country’s agricultural export business. The increase of larger container ships in recent years presents an opportunity for Timaru, as the volume of freight the port handles continues to grow significantly.

CHALLENGE

A relatively small and shallow harbor limits the room for berthing maneuvers, requiring centimeter-accurate navigation. In addition, the limited depth at the port means providing adequate under-keel clearance for larger vessels is challenging. In order to safely accommodate bigger ships and prevent the risk of grounding, the port’s pilots must employ highly accurate navigation techniques that take into account draft and available under-keel clearance.

SOLUTION

PrimePort, who operates Timaru, has a strong, long-term working relationship with Trelleborg. The port’s fender systems and bollards are provided by Trelleborg, and the two companies also partnered to upgrade Timaru’s navigation and piloting processes, with Trelleborg’s SafePilot CAT ROT navigation system performing flawlessly in piloting smaller vessels. Given this track record, PrimePort chose the state-of-the-art, SafePilot CAT MAX system to make sure Timaru could handle the Rio class vessels that would take their port to the next level.

The SafePilot system utilizes wireless heading and positioning units with integrated gyroscopic motion

SafePilot CAT MAX enables PrimePort’s pilots at Timaru to view real-time under-keel clearance and environmental data, making all the difference in this relatively shallow harbor which is often buffeted by high winds. This allows safer transit of larger vessels by eliminating grounding hazards and potential collisions.



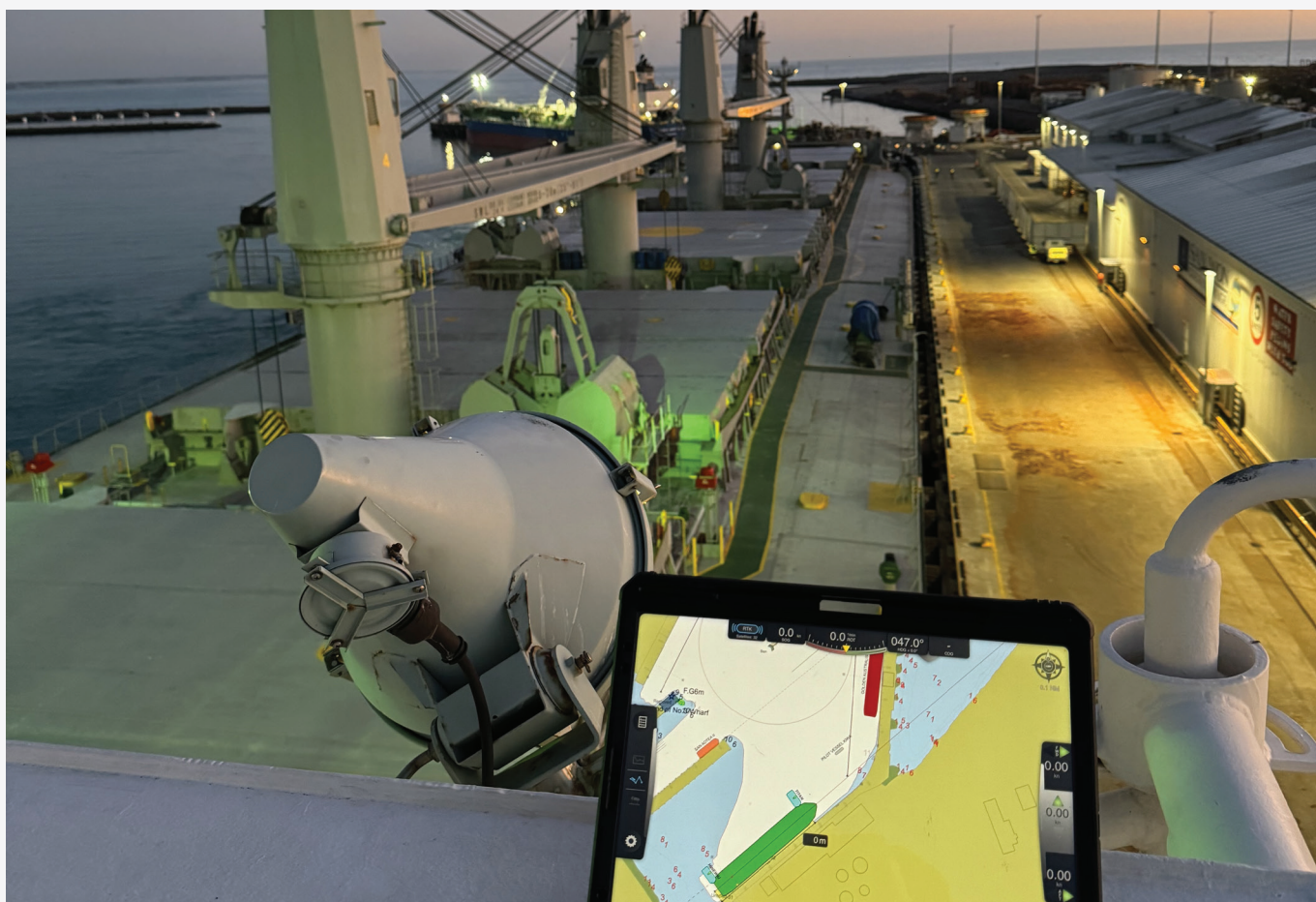
sensors. This provides precision data on rate of turn, pitch, roll and exact location. The system is accurate to 1cm per second for speed and 0.01 degrees for heading, making it ideal for confined harbors like Timaru. Pilots like the system because the intuitive software displays only pertinent information during each phase of pilotage. This eliminates information overload, significantly reducing the risk of accidents caused by human error.

All SafePilot systems are developed by Trelleborg jointly with active marine pilots, to maximize usability. This means that the customizable modules and clarity of relevant data at key moments make SafePilot intuitive to use on challenging maneuvers.

OUTCOME

The enhanced safety and efficiency from Trelleborg's state-of-the-art piloting system are supporting PrimePort Timaru's position as one of New Zealand's top ports. The ability to berth Rio-class container ships with 5,900 TEU capacity has already opened the door to increased cargo volumes and double-digit growth in bulk volume.

Navigation solutions like SafePilot CAT MAX are key components of Trelleborg's SmartPort system that connects critical interface between ships and ports. Timaru's implementation serves as a model for ports of all sizes seeking to upgrade facilities, safely accommodate larger vessels and strengthen their competitive positions.



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