

McInnis Cement builds marine terminal in Oshawa and takes delivery of rail cars

Gilles Gagné

MATAPEDIA: – McInnis Cement has started the construction of a third marine terminal that will receive the production of its Port Daniel plant. After Sainte-Catherines, near Montreal and Providence, Rhode Island, the company is currently building a terminal in Oshawa, Ontario.

Commercial operations will start later this spring at the Port Daniel facility. The work on the Oshawa terminal has been ongoing since the end of February.

“Formerly used for industrial port operations, the Oshawa site is already equipped with domes, two of which are currently being refurbished to include a cement unloading system for arriving vessels, and a truck loading station being constructed nearby. The two domes will provide a storage capacity of 14,000 tonnes of cement and the terminal will accommodate up to 60 trucks per day for loading and delivery to McInnis customers,” mentions McInnis Cement in a press release.

The NACC Quebec, the bulk carrier vessel chartered over the long term by McInnis Cement for distribution in the St. Lawrence Seaway area, will primarily serve the Oshawa terminal.

McInnis Cement will concentrate its distribution activities in the eastern part of North America.

“Terminal locations were selected based upon the accessibility to efficient waterways to leverage its water-based transportation advantages and high-population metropolitan areas to minimize the number of truck miles to their customers,” also emphasizes the press release.



Photo: G. Gagné

The covered hopper cars were seen in Matapedia during the last week of March.

New rail cars to serve McInnis Cement

As for the rail service, McInnis Cement has started receiving the brand new cars that will deliver cement to the customers favouring the railway. The first seven of 25 cars acquired from American rolling material builder Trinity Rail were seen in Matape-

dia during the last week of March.

They were completed in March of this year. They have a capacity of 3,230 cubic metres and are designed to transport, load and unload dry material “under tightly sealed conditions,” according to McInnis Cement.

Two additional deliveries of 12 and six cars will follow before mid-April. The cement

will first be loaded at a transshipment facility that will be built by the Gaspésie Railway Society next to its New Richmond head office. The situation stems from the fact that the line is dormant east of Caplan. The rail line actually passes between the Port Daniel plant and its marine terminal.

“As the work continues with the intensity required to

start our plant operations on time, our team is working extremely hard to complete the final pieces of the puzzle for both logistics and distribution,” says McInnis Cement CEO Hervé Mallet through a press release.

“We are pleased to see that everything is in place to distribute our cement to our customers in the coming weeks,” he adds.