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Viraj Profiles extends logistics arm; sets up Inland Container Depot

Viraj Profiles Ltd, the \$1.5bn leader in stainless steel long products, after its successful operations at CFS, Nhava Sheva has extended its logistics arm by setting up its Inland Container Depot – Vaishno Container Terminal at Tarapur, Maharashtra. Set up at an investment of Rs 90 crores, the Inland Container Depot (ICD) is located at Tarapur- Boisar, in Thane district, at a distance of 150 kms from the Nhava Sheva Terminals and 128 kms from Mumbai Port Terminal, with a travel time of 4-5 hours, ensuring smooth transportation between ICD to Gateway Ports.

MMR Bureau

Connected by rail and road with the Nhava Sheva Terminal the Vaishno Container Terminal has paved yard of 11.4 acres for container stacking handling up to 5000 TEU's per month, with adequate warehousing space of 33,000 sq.ft for import/export, LCL/FCL warehousing, as per requirement. State of the art container/cargo handling equipment, trained manpower and its close proximity to the gateway ports are some of the key points which will contribute towards the success of the ICD. Maintenance and repair (M&R) facilities are available



Mr Neeraj R Kochhar
Chairman and Managing Director
Viraj Profiles Ltd.

for all kinds of repairing, cleaning and sweeping, along with world class safety and security systems. Streamlined procedures, systems and standardized processes in handling the material and warehousing and efficient use and maintenance of equipment, ensures smooth operations. IT enabled processes with complete documentation and billing counters, that aid in container tracking are some of its value-added services. The facility is equipped with state of the art hardware and software to service the requirements of customs, importers/exporters and all other stakeholders. The new container terminal is fully geared up to ensure safe and

secure storage of containers and cargo and offers custom clearance facility near the centre of production and consumption. This will also reduce custom clearance time and improve the level of transparency.

According to, Mr Neeraj R Kochhar, Chairman and Managing Director, Viraj Profiles Ltd., “ Being associated with manufacturing for a long time, we realize how important it is for businesses to focus on their core activities and not get distracted by routine tasks, which can be very time consuming and expensive. As businesses get more globalized, competitiveness is key. With this belief, we have set up another inland container terminal (ICD), the Vaishno Container Terminal, at Tarapur providing world class logistics services. Our mission is to provide one stop shop in logistics and deliver operational excellence to the manufacturing units in and around the area. Providing a host of benefits like reduced customs clearance time, transportation and logistics cost, demurrage and pilferage clubbed with state of the art equipment and trained manpower, the facility is one of the most advanced in the country. We are quite optimistic about the need for more such facilities across the country and would be exploring some more

locations to open new container terminals, demonstrating our commitment to the sunrise industry.”

The western highway being of India’s busiest industrial corridors, facilities providing services resulting in efficiency and reduced costs, are a big boon ,providing much needed competitive advantage to businesses. The Vaishno Container Terminal apart from its proximity to Mumbai Port Terminal and Nhava Sheva Terminal, provides customs clearance facility near the centre of production and consumption, reducing the clearance time considerably and doing away with the necessity of customs at getaway ports. Reduced demurrage, pilferage and logistics cost, add to the facilities attraction for commercial units. Import containers are de-stuffed and can be retained at the depot, reducing empty container repositioning cost to zero. Export containers can be provided for dock stuffing/factory stuffing, reducing empty container transportation cost.

Viraj Profiles Limited (VPL) is the second largest manufacturer of stainless steel long products in the world and is ranked number one in stainless steel flanges. We have a strong global presence with our products being exported to more than 1300 customers in over 90 countries worldwide spread across 6 continents. Viraj Profiles Limited, one of the fastest growing business houses in India, is currently a major player in the global stainless steel market.

Viraj Profiles Limited rightly called the silent giant, commenced operations with less than 150 employees and a production capacity of 1000 MT in 1992. With what started as a small induction furnace



to manufacture utensil grade steel for domestic markets, Viraj Profiles Limited has now transformed into one of the world’s largest stainless steel manufacturers with a capacity of 528,000 tonnes per annum and a human resource strength of more than 9,000 employees and with an annual turnover of over US \$ 1.5 billion. The company has integrated production facilities and is set to increase its total melting capacity in the coming years. Today, Viraj has customer base in 6 continents and has made its presence felt in steel, defence, construction & structural buildings, power, petrochemical and marine industries.

Viraj Profiles was incorporated in 1990 and its first melt shop was commissioned in 1991, but the company’s journey truly began in 1992, when its small induction furnace commenced the manufacturing of steel in the industrial area of Tarapur, near Mumbai. Initially the company started manufacturing utensil-grade steel for the domestic market

but it always kept its eye on the international market which was growing significantly. To make this a possibility, in 1995 Viraj started increasing its production capacity, diversifying its product grades and product range, and enhancing its production processes. In that year, the company began manufacturing stainless steel and established divisions for bright bars and for flanges and forging, and started exporting bright bars. Almost every year since then Viraj has added a new type of product to its range, including sections and profiles, fasteners, wire and wire rods.

The diverse range of grades, sizes, categories and lengths of products available under one roof, combined with the engineering quality, makes us a leader and trusted brand in the international market. Over the last 20 years we have achieved over 90 product certifications and approvals in the petrochemical, food and beverage, construction, pharmaceutical, defence and marine industries.