

NAFITH INTERNATIONAL: IRAQ PROJECT OVERVIEW

March 2017

Nafith International designed, built, and is now operating a state-of-the-art intelligent transportation system to organize truck entry and movement at Iraq's seaports (the Project), under the terms of a concession agreement with the General Company for Ports Iraq (GCPI)¹. The Project is handling over 50,000 trucks each month at Umm Qasr, Iraq's principal port, and has handled over 300,000 trucks since the Project's launch during June 2016.

The Project's impact on port and truck operations is already evident: Umm Qasr runs better, is more productive and efficient, truck wait times have been slashed, the pervasive petty corruption that plagued the port has been reduced, revenue collection by the Iraqi government is up, and visibility into activity at the port – which is a foundation for security – has been magnified.

The Project team redesigned operating processes within the port; designed and deployed a proprietary information technology platform for system users (principally port operators and truck dispatchers); constructed a truck marshalling yard within the Umm Qasr port; built automated and staffed checkpoints; and placed over 10,000 identification tags on the trucks that handle cargo. Over 100 employees work for the Project.

The Project organizes the activities of multiple stakeholders (including the port and terminals, GCPI, the dispatchers, truckers, trucking companies, government entities, security agencies, etc.) into an integrated system that follows known rules, treats all participants fairly and transparently, and increases efficiency, productivity, and effectiveness.

During 2017 Nafith will enhance the system at Umm Qasr and expand operations to Iraq's smaller ports. To accomplish this, Nafith will build a second truck yard adjacent to the road from Basrah to the port area.

The Project utilizes technology, processes, experience, and expertise the company developed in Jordan, where Nafith designed and has operated for nearly a decade the Aqaba Truck Control System. That system eliminated the chaos, congestion, and delays which plagued Jordan's sole seaport. It won the 2009 award from the Intelligent Transportation Society of America for the best new service in the world in surface transportation.

Funding for the Iraq Project was provided the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the World Bank's private-sector investment arm, the Foursan Group, an investment fund based in Jordan, and by Nafith.

Nafith was founded over a decade ago by NTELX, a U.S. information technology company that uses naturally occurring data to improve freight transport operations; Sameer Mubarak and Nourah Mehyar, the company's leadership team; and with support from the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA).

¹ GCPI is a parastatal owned by Iraq's Ministry of Transport and is the owner of the ports in Iraq.