

NTELX INTERNATIONAL, LLC

Gridlock Tamed at Iraq's Critical Trade Gateway: Innovative Project Synchronizes Port Activity with Inland Transport

Vienna, VA June 27, 2016 – NTELX International (NXI) has launched an intelligent transportation system at Umm Qasr, Iraq's main seaport. Built and operated by NXI's Mideast subsidiary under an agreement with Iraq's Transport Ministry, the service increases port efficiency and minimizes the time needed for trucks to load or unload cargo. This has eased the chronic traffic delays that have bedeviled the port. Better port performance is vital for Iraq as roads to neighboring countries cross ISIS-controlled territory.

"Modernizing Iraq's economy remains a top priority during this challenging time," noted Iraq's Ambassador to the U.S., Lukman Faily. "Investments by companies that combine sophisticated technology with the talents of American and regional partners are greatly needed by Iraq."

"A decade ago we demonstrated that our software, which utilizes information that naturally occurs as part of international trade, could be used to organize the flow of vehicles at the historic port of Aqaba in Jordan," explained Rob Quartel, NXI's chairman. "In Jordan we cut costs and delivery times for truckers and shippers. We are pleased to be applying our expertise in Iraq."

"Perseverance and years of hard work lay behind this launch," added Larry Kahn, NXI's president. "We needed to put aside concerns about ISIS and Iraqi politics. Instead, we focused on designing, building, and running a technically advanced, complex project in a fragile country. Making this less challenging was the support we received from countless Iraqi officials and our investors, the International Finance Corporation, which is the World Bank's private-sector finance arm, and Foursan Capital Partners."

The system combines process redesign with an integrated software platform for the port operators and truck dispatchers, truck marshalling yards, terminal capacity controls, automated and staffed checkpoints, data validation, and routing algorithms. The company's business in Jordan won the 2009 award from the Intelligent Transportation Society of America for the best land transportation service using advanced technology.

In Congressional testimony the State Department reported that the improvements in Aqaba "...cut inefficiency and corruption and saved the Jordanian economy about \$100 million a year..." The collateral benefits also are significant: Congestion, pollution, accidents, and fuel consumption declined, and the capacity of existing infrastructure expanded.

"Investing in Iraq is not for the faint-hearted," concluded Rob Quartel. "For us, Iraq is proving once again that even in challenging conditions we can deploy our data-driven, cutting-edge solutions and deliver outsized benefits. NXI plans to serve many more ports and countries during our second decade."

NTELX International (NXI) promotes, develops, finances, builds, and operates projects outside of the United States that improve freight transportation starting at the gates of port terminals. NXI was formed when NTELX, Inc. separated into two companies. NTELX, Inc. is a provider of software solutions that mobilize analytics for use in operations for public and private-sector clients.

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