



Special Supplement

January 2011

The Nectar Group

A Short History

We have produced a short history of the Group and highlighted some of the milestones and achievements over the past 38 years. The roots of Nectar can be traced back as far as 1972, and certainly to the days of Nat Shipping and Trading Co. Limited which was set up specifically to deal with bulk cargoes and specialist contracts.

Grabs were built in house by Nectar Shipping Project Services in Rotterdam, who would later be responsible for designing and developing the first generation bagging plants that could be used to offer bagging services to the fertilizer and grain companies who were shipping these products in bulk to Developing World countries that at the time had no facilities for offloading.

The pioneering and entrepreneurial spirit of those early days involved much testing and development of equipment and concepts which had not been seen or used before but today seem an every day occurrence.

We hope this brief but informative section will shed light on the companies beginnings and also helps in highlighting the significant achievements of those individuals who were involved in those early days.

Nectar Group Limited

Established Since 1972.



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The Nectar Story



NAT Shipping was well known in the field of special transportation projects. Nectar can trace its routes back to the early 1970's



This was made possible by the arrival in the late 1970's of a revolutionary mobile bagging system, the well known "Mopack" equipment. The story has been repeated in ports all over the world. In fact to date the company has discharged and bagged at destination in excess of 39 million tons of different kinds of bulk cargo. This incredible quantity includes millions of tons of various kinds of fertilizer, without doubt the most difficult of all products as handling characteristics vary between formulations.



The Revolutionary MOPACK™



In the Beginning

Back in 1982, NAT Shipping was well known in the field of “special transportation projects”. The Company had successfully completed all sorts of unusual shipments, such as over 1,000 railway cars and equipment for British Rail over a period of 6 years. Also NAT Shipping was responsible for the highly intricate shipping movements for the then largest manmade concrete oil platform in the world, the platform of the Ninian field in the North Sea.

The request was very simple: Can you find a way to bag bulk fertilizer “en route” to the final port of destination, without having to use an intermediate port for discharging, bagging and reloading? In other words, devise a simple and cost effective yet accurate method or bagging at destination.

And so the project was born. Visits were made to fertilizer factories to see how they bagged their products. North European Ports were visited to see what they did in terms of bagging and finally all of the bagging equipment which was available at the time was examined and investigated.



Constant attention to Innovation led to a new Generation of Machine called the COMPAC 140™ being developed. Today although the latest 3rd Generation COMPAC140™ machines might look the same, they are very different underneath.



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After lengthy internal discussions, it became clear that if such equipment was to be used, then it would have to be designed and built in-house, as there was nothing available which could meet the tough requirements.

In an old and draughty little factory located in the old part of the Port of Rotterdam in 1982, the experiments and research progressed, helped by a specially assembled team of highly skilled technicians.

Eventually MOPACK™ was born, a totally new weighing principle and bagging design, especially suited to work with ships in dockside conditions.

Many tests and trials took place cumulating with destination bagging operations beginning in 1983 at Assab, Ethiopia with 25,000mts of DAP.

Ever since then, Nectar has learned from its technical people in the field which parts of the equipment function well and which ones need improvement, modifications or perhaps even a complete re-design.

The Innovative COMPAC 140™

By 1996, Nectar Shipping and Projects Limited had a fleet of 66 bagging lines and had been offering destination bagging for some 14 years. In this time operations had taken place in more than 75 different port locations around the world.

MOPACK™ had also been developed further and by May 1996 the second generation machine COMPAC 140™ was put to the test and launched successfully. The Compac was faster and more accurate than the machine it replaced, yet the machine was still housed inside the confines of an ISO standard 20' Container. COMPAC 140 introduced electronic self adjusting weighers and more stainless steel parts and along with other state of the art technology.

As the 1990's drew to a close, the company further expanded the areas in which it operated and also widened its activities to include Lightening, Expediting, Bulk Terminal Management and Consultancy Services.

The Nectar Group as it is now known has operated in 140 different port locations in 72 countries. The fleet now consists of over 100 bagging plants (managed and owned) along with Grabs, Hoppers and Ancillary Equipment. Investment has also been made in Vacuators and other bulk handling equipment which has allowed the company to handle in excess of 45 million tons of cargo since its inception.

Nectar Group has developed an international reputation as a company able to complete operations in an efficient and timely manner, even under the most trying of circumstances. The secret to this success is down to having excellent equipment and a totally dedicated and inspired management supported by a skilled and loyal technical field teams.

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Commissioning new machines is an all important part of the technical groups activities



Our Staff

Key in the success of the Group are the staff. The Company is blessed with a highly dedicated team of designers, engineers and an ever expanding team of field technicians.

Supporting them are the office teams based at the Head Office in London, covering Finance, Operations, Commercial activities and Projects.

With in house design capabilities and skilled engineers, Nectar is capable of designing much more than just bagging machines.

Dedicated Technical Teams who are in attendance at every operation are supported by a team of Port Captains and Senior Management back in the Head Office.





New Generation ISO 10ft bagging machines now sit alongside the 3rd Generation COMPAC 140™ as well as Nectars other Bulk Cargo Handling Equipment such as Vacuators.



Nectar is involved in a number of specialist projects around the world. Erection of Ship Unloaders and maintenance of Mobile and Fixed Gantry Cranes are just a few of the activities that the Group's personnel are now involved in.

While destination bagging is still at the heart of the company, many new and exciting projects are taking place to further position the company as a leading bulk cargo handler and problem solver.

