

Port of Pohnpei

Port Overview

The Port of Pohnpei is located on the island of Pohnpei. Pohnpei is the capital of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and the National government is established in Palikir, Sokehs. The Pohnpei Ports Authority operates the Port. The Pohnpei Port is a semi-autonomous agency. The port along with all other ports in FSM is overseen by the Department of Transportation Communication and Infrastructure. The Port predominantly facilitates the import of goods for domestic use, which is almost exclusively containerized freight. The port is broken into four (4) separate areas. The main dock encompassing the International and fishing dock with the Domestic and Maritime Surveillance dock adjacent to the main dock area.

Achievements

The Pohnpei Port achievements / highlights are as follow:

1. JICA Project- to expand the dock due to the congestion of fisheries vessels within the port
 - Construction of a wharf
 - Reclamation of a container yard
 - Assess road
2. World Bank Project- to upgrade the commercial up to international standards
 - Improve safety, efficiency and climate resiliency of maritime infrastructure
 - Strengthen safety and security of maritime transport and support better climate resilience maritime facilities and for local communities by improving the reliability of connections between the four FSM states and the outer islands for food, water, fuel, and emergencies response services.
 - Upgrade the ATONS
3. Australian
4. Removal of the old inter- island ship from the port
 - With the collaboration of the US Navy Diving Team and Pohnpei Authority, the vessel was escorted, towed out to the sea and was sunken outside the reef.

Challenges

1. The port needs a domestic dock for the two Government passenger vessels to ease the congestion of vessels within the port areas.
2. The port need to upgrade the pilot boat in order to better transport the pilot out to the vessels.
3. Lack of qualified pilots

4. Lack of trainings for pilots and port personnel
5. Aging Infrastructures
6. Transshipment area is situated far from the port and difficult to monitor the operation
7. Channel is too narrow and too shallow for bigger vessels to enter port.
8. Climate Change
9. High Sea Level Rising
10. Port Automation
11. Green Port

Conclusion

The Port Pohnpei Port achievements are resulted from the collaboration between the Port, State Government, National Government and stakeholders including foreign donors. The Port will continue to progress in spite of the challenges that the port has. The Port will continue to seek assistance to help build a resilient port and friendly port that would enable to handle all vessels at port and provide an efficient and effective port.