

Press release

For immediate release
Geneva, 23 May 2007

Cotecna signs inspection contract in Equatorial Guinea

Cotecna, the international inspection group, has signed a six year contract with the government of Equatorial Guinea. This contract includes pre-shipment inspection, document verification at the point of origin which will be carried out by Cotecna's vast worldwide network, and destination scanning at the ports of entry. The verification process will use Cotecna's Computerized Risk Management System (CRMS®), a powerful IT Customs application that collects and analyses trade transactions to assign the correct level of intervention depending on the risk.

Cotecna will set up offices in the maritime ports and airports of Bata and Malabo where the operations will take place. A total of four scanners will be deployed; a mobile scanner at each maritime port and a pallet scanner at each airport.

Over the past few years Equatorial Guinea, a country with massive oil reserves, has played a major role in the regional organizations. This new inspection contract confirms the government's firm intention of increasing internal and external security and modernizing the country's customs and tax situation.

Robert Massey, CEO Cotecna said, "We are proud to have been awarded this contract by the government of Equatorial Guinea and are committed to assisting the country in its endeavour to modernize Customs. This contract gives Cotecna, already a leader in government inspection services in West Africa, the opportunity to reinforce its activities in Central Africa."

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Founded in Switzerland in 1974, the COTECNA Group offers a wide range of trade facilitation services, trade security services and quality certification standards. Cotecna is a pioneer in areas such as risk management, destination inspection and scanner integration projects and also offers Customs modernization programmes, Customs valuation assistance, trade security solutions and commercial inspections. For a full description of our services, please visit www.cotecna.com. The Cotecna Group has a combined workforce of about 4,000 employees and agents in close to 100 offices and holds 14 government inspection contracts.