

# Port company puts the PD in people development with industry win

An industry-leading approach to people development has been celebrated at Humber-investing PD Ports.

The operator has been recognised with an International Bulk Journal Award as the prestigious maritime event returned for the first time since 2019 in Rotterdam.

The company celebrated its 20th year of supporting young people in 2021 having first launched its dedicated apprenticeship scheme back in 2001. Since then, the company has continued to prioritise attracting, retaining and developing talent through a number of initiatives including a bespoke Chartered Management Degree Apprenticeship with 11 employees graduating earlier this year.

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Geoff Lippitt, chief commercial officer at PD Ports, was delighted to receive such an award on an international stage. He said: "PD Ports now proudly employs more people than ever before. Not only do we continue to invest in our award-winning training programmes for early careers, but we also want to see every one of our people given the tools to reach their full potential. We now have 19 members of staff, specifically employed within our bulks operations, who are enrolled in further developmental and educational courses which is just fantastic."

The company is behind a £10 million port investment to handle steel distribution in northern Lincolnshire.

It is close to completing a dedicated new 200,000 sq ft site at its Groveport facility on the River Trent, supporting long-term customer Barrett Steel as it grows its market share. It is PD's largest investment on the Humber in decades, with the 190-acre site between Gunness and Flixborough, on the outskirts of Scunthorpe, its largest location in the region.

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