

Major port services company moves to Long Beach

By Karen Robes Meeks , Long Beach Press Telegram

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Artist rendering of the new Nautilus International/Metro company headquarters at Douglas Park in Long Beach, CA on Tuesday, March 3, 2015. The 40,000-square-foot building will sit on 2.57 acres at the northeast corner of Worsham Avenue and Cover Street and will house Nautilus International Holding Corp and its Metro Ports subsidiaries in a move that brings them to Long Beach from their current headquarters in Wilmington. (Photo by Scott Varley, Daily Breeze)



Nautilus International CEO James Callahan sits atop a bucket loader after using it to break ground on a new company headquarters at Douglas Park in Long Beach, CA on Tuesday, March 3, 2015. The 40,000-square-foot building will sit on 2.57 acres at the northeast corner of Worsham Avenue and Cover Street and will house Nautilus International Holding Corp and its Metro Ports subsidiaries in a move that brings them to Long Beach from their current headquarters in Wilmington. (Photo by

Scott Varley, Daily Breeze)

A longtime cargo unloading and port logistics services company is making Long Beach its new home.

About 80 city leaders and officials with Nautilus International Holding Corp. and its Metro subsidiaries ceremoniously broke ground today on the company's new headquarters at Douglas Park in East Long Beach.

Nautilus/Metro, which in 2014 inked a 20-year pact with the Port of Long Beach for continued bulk cargo operations, is moving from Wilmington to Douglas Park near the Long Beach Airport.

The company's new two-story building, which is set to open by December, will be able to accommodate up to 120 employees within 40,000 square feet of office space and be eco-friendly with its solar carport and electric car charging stations.

“Our new headquarters represents a new chapter for Nautilus and Metro,” COO Michael F. Giove said in a statement. “Not only will we be closer to our Port of Long Beach operations, but this move also represents our continued leadership in the stevedoring and port service industry. We are continuing a proud tradition of strategic, sustained growth.”

The company, which has 30 operations in the U.S. and two countries, provides a host of business administration and management services to the maritime industry through Nautilus, while Metro Ports — which has operated at the Port of Long Beach since 1923 — moves 10 million tons of dry and liquid bulk products annually and operates the largest dry bulk cargo terminal on the West Coast. Metro Cruise and Metro Shore specialize in cruise terminal and stevedoring operations.

The Metro companies operate in 19 ports along the East, West and Gulf coasts.

“Long Beach has known and respected Nautilus and Metro Ports for decades, so we are thrilled they are making their home in the International City,” Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia said. “Attracting a leader in marine cargo services further cements our city’s reputation as the gateway to the nation’s economy. We look forward to many more decades of growth at Nautilus and Metro Ports.”

The company is the latest venture to open in Douglas Park, a mixed-use development that once was the home of aircraft manufacturing. Other businesses include Mercedes-Benz, which is poised to open its new 1.1 million-square-foot facility for sales, training and vehicle preparation, and Virgin Galactic, which announced that it will build small satellite launchers and begin moving employees into its facility this weekend.

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Contact Karen Robes Meeks at 562-714-2088.