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HPH Signs Port of Manta Concession

[18 November 2006 – Hong Kong] – Hutchison Port Holdings (HPH) signed a 30-year concession with the Manta Port Authority (MPA) yesterday to build and operate a new container terminal at the Port of Manta, Ecuador. The formal signing follows the announcement in September that HPH had been selected to operate this important concession.

A new port operating company, Terminales Internacionales de Ecuador S.A. (TIDE), has been formed, and the project will involve a total investment of US\$523 million.

Commenting on the occasion, Gerry Yim, Head of the Americas, Middle East and Africa for HPH, said, "We are pleased to work alongside the Manta Port Authority to jointly develop the Port of Manta. We are positive this partnership will enable TIDE to capture a significant share of the region's growing trade activities."

Trajano Andrade, President of Manta Port Authority said, "We are encouraged by HPH's decision to invest in the Port of Manta. TIDE will bring together our local market knowledge and HPH's expertise in global port management and operations to help the Port of Manta become the region's premier port."

The new terminal is scheduled to be operational in 2007. It will have a container handling quay of 1,250 metres in length, with depths alongside of up to 16 metres, and a total area of 63 hectares upon completion of all phases.

In addition to the port development of the commercial port, a new fishing terminal will be built offering substantially more berthing space to the local fishing fleet than at present.

TIDE is situated in the Port of Manta, Ecuador's only natural deep-sea port, capable of accommodating the next generation of mega-vessels. The Port of Manta is only one hour sailing time from international shipping routes, making it the ideal first port of call for global shipping lines serving the Asian trade lanes.

With the addition of TIDE, HPH's network of ports has increased to 44 worldwide.

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Notes to Editors:

Hutchison Port Holdings (HPH), a subsidiary of the multinational conglomerate Hutchison Whampoa Limited (HWL), is the world's leading port investor, developer and operator with interests in 22 countries throughout Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Europe and the Americas. Today, HPH operates a total of 255 berths in 44 ports together with a number of transportation related service companies. With industry recognised core competence in the effective and efficient management and operation of ports, the HPH Group handled 51.8 million TEU in 2005.