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**Two projects launched: Rauma channel deepening and container terminal expansion in Port of Rauma**

At the Port of Rauma, two major building contracts, totalling just over 60 million euros, will commence in April 2016. The work will be completed by the end of 2017. The share of Port of Rauma Ltd is about 34 million euros and the share of the Finnish Transport Agency about 28 million euros.

Port of Rauma Ltd, in cooperation with the Finnish Transport Agency, will increase the maximum authorised draught of Rauma channel from 10 metres to 12 metres. The project comprises dredging, disposal of dredge spoils and buoyage. Wasa Dredging Oy Ltd is the principal contractor appointed for the channel deepening project.

At the same time, Port of Rauma Ltd will expand the current container terminal by building more berths for container ships and a new storage area for containers. Destia Oy is the principal contractor appointed for the container terminal expansion project.

Environmental considerations play an important role in the implementation of both projects and the environmental impacts of the work on the marine environment are monitored throughout the project. "The dredging operations include removing a large amount of contaminated soil from the seabed to the Rauman Biovoima plant for processing, after which the soil is kept separated from the sea area. Clean dredge spoils, on the other hand, will be deposited in dredge spoil basins", says Seppo Paukkeri, Project Manager at the Finnish Transport Agency.

Upon completion of these projects, the competitive advantage of the Port of Rauma will be significantly strengthened. "Thanks to the deeper channel and extended quays, the port will be able to accommodate larger vessels, whereby transport efficiency of the export and import industry is enhanced and transport emissions are reduced. This will almost double the capacity of the container terminal and significantly improve the operational efficiency. Through these measures, the Port of Rauma responds to the development in global maritime markets, where larger vessel sizes and container freight are the dominant trend", says Hannu Asumalahti, Managing Director of Port of Rauma Ltd.

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News about the project progress will be posted on the project web pages:

Container terminal expansion: <http://www.portofrauma.com/konttiterminaali/etusivu>

Channel deepening: [http://www.liikennevirasto.fi/rauman\\_vayla](http://www.liikennevirasto.fi/rauman_vayla)