



Ministry of Transport and Communications
Maritime Transport Department
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The mission of the Department of Maritime Transport is "*to formulate policies, conduct research, develop, administer, regulate and monitor the maritime transport service for the benefit of the Nation*".

The objectives of the Department are:

- To promote and maintain an efficient economical and regular maritime transport services
- To expand an efficient system of port services and facilities
- To ensure a high degree of safety in maritime transport
- To prevent marine pollution from ships

Generally, the overall objective is to seek ways and means for the promotion and development of all aspects of maritime transport in the State of Eritrea.

MASSAWA (15°37 N - 39°29 E)

MASSAWA PORT ADMINISTRATION
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◆ INFRASTRUCTURES

BERTH	TYPE	LENGTH	DRAUGHT
Berth No 1	Commercial general purpose	176,0m	5,0m
Berth No 2	Commercial general purpose	150,0m	7,5m
Berth No 3	Commercial general purpose	137,0m	8,7m
Berth No 4	Commercial general purpose	137,0m	8,4m
Berth No 5	Commercial general purpose	137,0m	8,0-12,0m
Berth No 6	Commercial general purpose	208,6m	12,0m
Salt Berth	Salt Terminal		9,6m
Cement Berth	Cement Terminal		5,4m
Eritro-Jordan Cement Jetty	Cement terminal		11,0m
Mobil Terminal	Oil Terminal	185,0m	9,0m
Agip Terminal	Oil Terminal	176,0m	8,6m

◆ SUPERSTRUCTURES

STORAGE & WAREHOUSES

4 warehouses with storage area of 38 445 m²

Open shed (1) of 7 200 m²

Stacking area of 158 412 m²

EQUIPMENT

Cargo handling equipment at quay and shore

Type	Capacity	Quantity
Shore cranes	5-10 tons	5
Ship-shore crane	75	1
Mobile cranes	10-100 tons	8
Forklifts	3-10 tons	37
CLT	10-35 tons	2
Reach stackers	10-35 tons	1
Tractors		28
Bagging machine		4
Tug boat	14-1600hp	3
Pilot boat		3
Tug master		5

◆ OPERATIONS

Ship working hours is 7 days a week at 3 shifts.

- 1st shift 07:00 – 14:00
- 2nd shift 14:00 – 22:00
- 3rd shift 22:00 – 06:00

◆ RAILWAYS

Started in 1888 under Italian rule, the Eritrean Railways have been abandoned since 1974. In 1998, the 70km stretch between Massawa to Ghinda has been reopened, and another 18km between Ghinda and Embatkala in 2001. Further rehabilitation to Asmara (28km) is planned.

◆ TRAFFIC

TOTAL THROUGHPUT

Tons	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Liquid Bulk	241,245	210,657	191,631	213,420	207,297
Dry cargo (general cargo & bulk)	723,737	1,028,499	641,567	876,684	988,425
TOTAL	964,982	1,239,156	833,198	1,090,104	1,195,722

CONTAINERS

TEU's	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Unloaded	5,484	6,195	6,215	8,725	12,195
Loaded	4,630	6,966	6,906	7,258	12,085
Total	10,114	13,161	13,121	15,983	24,280
Tonnage	68,464	75,412	101,833	128,348	-

◆ PROJECTS

- Dredging in front of berth 6 to 12 metres depth
- Reclamation of land behind berth 6
- Pavement of new stacking yard for containers (79 000 m²)
- Pavement of work inside the harbour
- Construction of a container terminal
- Revitalising and upgrading Massawa ship-repair yard
- Construction of port administration office
- Purchase of port equipment (2 gantry cranes and 3 shoe cranes of 15 tons)
- Massawa causeways improvement and widening
- Clearing of apron and storage areas
- Introduction of computer network system
- Human resource development systems
- Commercialisation of port sector
- Privatisation of some port activities
- Rehabilitation and installation of aids to navigation
- Procurement and installation of radio communication (GMDSS)

ASSAB (13°01 N - 42°44 E)

The port of Assab was, until the beginning of the war with Ethiopia in May 1998, the main gateway to Ethiopia. The total throughput was then around 3 million tons per year, and later decreased to almost zero.

◆ INFRASTRUCTURES

Berth	Length	Depth
1	210m	10.97m
2	150m	10.97m
3	135m	10.06m
4	80m	5.48m
5	140m	8.20m
6	160m	8.84m
7	150m	10.06m
7a (ro-ro)	115m	7.50m
Shell jetty		9.90m
Coastal tanker jetty		8.10m
Refinery terminal		10.80m
Salt loading terminal		9.90m

◆ SUPERSTRUCTURES

STORAGE & WAREHOUSES

Warehouses 25 960m²

Open shed 40 354m²

Stacking area 209 005m²

TOTAL 275,319m²

The port has 275,319m² of storage area with holding capacity of 385,950 metric tons.

EQUIPMENT

Type	Capacity	Quantity
Shore crane	6-20 tons	18
Shore to shore tower crane	75 tons	2
Mobile cranes	6-150 tons	8
Forklifts	3-10 tons	82
CLT	10-35 tons	4
Tug master		4
Tractors		40
Bagging machine		8
Tug boat	1400-1600 hp	4
Pilot boat		3

◆ OPERATIONS

Ship work in 7 days a week in 3 shifts

- 1st shift 07:00 – 14:00
- 2nd shift 14:00 – 22:00
- 3rd shift 22:00 – 06:00

◆ TRAFFIC

TOTAL THROUGHPUT

Tons	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Liquid Bulk	1,294,913	319,986	68,654	20,209	47,484
Dry cargo	1,017,432	652,699	26,699	41,659	43,002
TOTAL	2,312,345	972,685	95,353	61,868	90,486

CONTAINERS

TEU's	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Unloaded	18,110	6,126	88	154	314
Loaded	16,646	8,353	180	68	222
TOTAL	34,756	14,479	268	222	536

◆ PROJECTS

- Purchase of port equipment: 1 fire fighting truck, shore cranes, and 1 gantry crane
- Construction of berths 13 – 14 (container terminal)
- Concrete work
- Human resources development
- Finalise study on commercialisation of the port of Assab