

Guam Port Authority approves bid to replace aging gantry cranes

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Source: Port Authority of Guam

In a significant development for the Port Authority of Guam, the Board of Directors has passed Resolution No. 2024-16, approving a multi-phase bidding process to replace the Port's outdated gantry cranes.

According to the GUAM DOD MASTER PLAN, the Port's aging cranes—purchased second-hand in 2009 and now over 40 years old—are a significant concern, presenting risks to both commercial and military logistics.

As these cranes are near the end of their operational life, the Port's ability to efficiently handle cargo is at stake, particularly given rising geopolitical pressures.

As there is urgency to modernize the port equipment to accommodate higher cargo volumes and align with national security goals, the Port's Board has taken proactive steps with Resolution No. 2024-16, directing the General Manager to issue a structured Invitation for Bid (IFB) for the acquisition of up to three new gantry cranes, based on available funding.

“Current funds may only cover one crane, but failing to pursue every option to acquire at least three, and ideally four, Ship-To-Shore (STS) gantry cranes would significantly impact the Port’s operational resilience and strategic importance,” stated Port Authority of Guam General Manager Rory Respicio.

This procurement plan allows for the purchase of one, two, or all three cranes initially, all built to stringent standards, including cybersecurity enhancements and weather-resilient designs to withstand Guam’s severe climate conditions.

Rory J. Respicio emphasized the administration’s role in advocacy and providing essential data showcased in the DoD gap analysis, which highlights pressing infrastructure needs at the Port. He noted that it also underscores other critical priorities, including modernizing the public hospital and addressing infrastructure gaps identified in their strategic initiatives.

“Our efforts to secure new cranes are integral to Guam’s role as a reliable logistics hub for commerce and the military—now more than ever amid geopolitical tension. Thanks to the awareness advanced by Governor Leon Guerrero, Lt. Governor Tenorio, our Board, and all other local and federal partners, the DoD’s gap analysis underscores the urgency of enhancing port readiness,” commented Rory J. Respicio