



New Lock

TERNEUZEN

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Ready for the future!



Facts & figures

Present navigation locks

Eastern lock
built in 1963
length 280m, width 24m
 for inland vessels only

Middle lock
built in 1910
length 140m, width 18m
 for inland vessels and sea-going vessels with a draft up to 7.2m

Western lock
built in 1968
length 290m, width 40m
 for inland vessels and sea-going vessels with a draft up to 12.5m

New Lock

New Lock Terneuzen
length 427m, width 55m, depth 15m
 for inland vessels and sea-going vessels up to 366m x 49m x 15m

The Terneuzen lock complex connects the Westerschelde with the Ghent-Terneuzen Canal. The Ghent-Terneuzen Canal is one of the busiest navigated canals in Europe. Together with the Seine Nord Canal, the Terneuzen locks form the main bottleneck in the Rotterdam-Paris inland waterway route.

Preparations for building a new lock are already well under way. The new large lock will be built within the current lock complex, between the Western and Eastern locks. The existing Middle Lock will therefore be removed. The New Lock is expected to be operational in 2021. The project is a binational Dutch-Flemish cooperation.

This New Lock prepares the Canal zone for the future!



European subsidies

The project has been awarded European subsidies for the planning phase. The Netherlands and Flanders have also submitted a joint application for subsidies to the European Commission for executing the project.

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Why a new lock?

The New Lock:

- increases the capacity for the passage of inland vessels between the Netherlands, Belgium and France;
- gives an economic boost to the Zeeland region and Flanders;
- improves the robust entrance to the ports of Ghent and Terneuzen for large sea-going vessels.



Process



Planning study (2012 - 2015)

The New Lock Terneuzen project team is finalising plans and preparations for construction.

The planning phase focuses on the following topics:

- Development of the preferred solution into an appropriate design for the New Lock;
- Spatial planning process using the "Tracéwet";
- Preparation of the tender for the construction phase.

Preparatory works

If everything goes according to plan, construction of the New Lock will commence in 2017. Preparations to this end are already in full swing. A contractor will be selected through a tendering procedure in 2016.

In anticipation of construction, the project team has started to purchase land, map out cables and utility tubes and seek alternative sites for the companies which will need to move premises due to the construction of the New Lock.



"The government has approved construction of the New Lock! The first ships will pass through it in 2021"

"Something has to be done if we want to create a sound economic future for the Canal zone and Flanders. Following an extensive survey, the government has decided to prepare for the construction of a new lock within the existing lock complex in Terneuzen. It has also agreed terms for the construction of the lock and divided up the corresponding costs. In our capacity as project organisation we are busy preparing for construction. The first ships are expected to pass through the lock in 2021. That is our goal! The New Lock will be an asset to maritime access and an essential link in the European inland waterway corridor. The lock will also be positive for the economies of both the Netherlands and Flanders."

Eric Marteijn, New Lock Terneuzen Project Director

Participation process

The general public and all stakeholders may respond at different times to the:

- Draft planning decision (Ontwerptractébesluit) including Environmental Impact Assessment, Appropriate Assessment and Landscape plan (spring 2015);
- Final planning decision (Tractébesluit) (end of 2015).

Construction works

Construction of the lock will start in 2017, with the following activities:

- General works
- Harbours: alterations to inner and outer harbours
- Plots: construction of road connections, lock platform and maintenance buildings
- Lock: construction of lock heads and chamber and of gates and bridges
- Dikes and flood protection
- Supporting installations



Timetable

2012-2015	Project study phase
2015	Treaty Flanders-The Netherlands
2016	Selection of contractor
2017	Start of construction phase
2021	Operational new lock

Watch the movie about the New Lock Terneuzen (available in English).

