

**PRESS RELEASE**

For immediate release

**QSL TO INVEST OVER \$15 MILLION IN SOREL–TRACY AREA**

**Sorel, April 15, 2019** - QSL is continuing to pursue its expansion in the Sorel-Tracy area with \$15 million in investments. The winner of 2017 Business of the Year in the Industrial Production, Processing, and Distribution category of the Economic Merit Awards will build three new warehouses in 2019 and launch a pilot project with advanced new equipment newly imported from Ireland. The goal for QSL is to consolidate its leadership position, do more to promote customer success, and strengthen its roots in an area where it has been a fixture for over 20 years.

The Sorel-Tracy terminal is a natural multimodal hub for QSL clients with its strategic proximity to markets and connections to rail and Highway 30. The eagerly anticipated new investment also responds to growing demand in steel, oversize cargo shipment, and agricultural products.

“Innovation is a group effort,” said QSL president and CEO Robert Bellisle. “We’re proud of what our seasoned operators, optimization teams, and engineers have accomplished in these projects. Their dedication to going that extra mile and the trust of our customers are the keys that allow us to continually improve operations and maintain the record of excellence we’ve had for more than 40 years.”

QSL will give top preference to local businesses for the construction of its multi-product and fertilizer warehouses. QSL already employs more than 100 people in the area and transships 425,000 metric tons locally each year. In the last five years, QSL has injected over \$33 million into the local economy in the form of wages and purchasing.

Two new pieces of equipment from Combilift will be making their Quebec stevedoring début as well; the straddle carrier and sidelift will handle oversized loads, maximize warehouse space, and speed transshipments. In the long haul, they’ll not only improve energy efficiency and make the workplace safer, but also boost productivity and reduce truck wait times. Optimizing those operations will enhance efficiency throughout the supply chain and reduce greenhouse-gas emissions by over 230 metric tons per year during the pilot project.

**About QSL**

QSL is a world-class maritime terminal operator and stevedore that develops tailor-made solutions to offer innovative handling methods while paying careful attention to the cargo and the specific needs of the customer. With headquarters in Quebec City, it boasts over 1,300 employees and operates more than 30 maritime terminals all along the St. Lawrence–Great Lakes corridor. QSL’s vision is clear: to become the North American industry leader by supporting the success of its customers, actively participating in the growth of the Canadian and U.S. import and export markets, and making a difference in the communities where it operates.

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