

## Media Release

### WEATHER TAKES ITS TOLL ON BOTANY TRADE IN JULY

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**1 September 2011**

Sydney Ports Corporation reported today that container trade through Port Botany fell by 8.8 per cent in July 2011, compared to the same month last year.

Sydney Ports Chief Executive Officer Grant Gilfillan said that a number of adverse weather events, both locally and overseas, had affected the volume of trade in July.

He said that for the month of July 2011, total container volume through Port Botany was 156,669 TEU\*.

Full containerised exports had reached 39,145 TEU in July 2011, down 2.1 per cent on the same period last year.

Empty exports had reached 37,953 TEU in July 2011, down 18% on the same period last year.

Full containerised imports for July 2011 were 78,140 TEU, 6.6 per cent lower than July 2010.

“However, it should be noted that in the last week of July, the port was shut for three days,” Mr Gilfillan said.

“In addition, a number of vessels coming from Asia were delayed by bad weather.

“While it is clear that weather events took their toll in July, it should be remembered that for the financial year 2010/11, a trade record was set at Port Botany with trade through the port exceeding two million TEU for the first time ever.

“It is not unexpected that trade figures will fluctuate from month to month, given the uncertainties of weather events,” he said.

Mr Gilfillan said that the leading containerised exports for the month of July 2011 were Cereals, Chemicals and Machinery and Transport Equipment.

“All up, these commodities represent 28 per cent of total full exports,” he said.

Exported Cereal includes wheat and cereal preparations. Exported Chemicals include plastic materials, artificial resins, organic and inorganic chemicals as well as explosives and other chemical materials and products.

“The key import commodities for July 2011 were Machinery & Transport equipment, Miscellaneous Manufactures and Chemicals and Paper Products.

“Combined, these commodities represent over 56 per cent of total containerised imports,” Mr Gilfillan said.

Imported Machinery and Transport Equipment also includes electrical and non-electrical machinery and motor vehicle parts and accessories as well as power generation machinery and equipment.

Imported Chemicals include plastic materials, essential oils and perfume materials and organic and inorganic chemicals.

The majority of full containerised imports were sourced from East Asia (44.9 per cent) and Europe (15.7 per cent), which combined, accounted for over 60 per cent of total container imports through Port Botany.

Total trade for the financial year to date was approximately 2.4 million mass tonnes — a decrease of 6.6 per cent when compared to the same period last year.

\*TEU = Twenty-Foot Equivalent Units

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