

Media Release

SYDNEY PORTS WELCOMES LARGEST CONTAINER VESSEL TO VISIT AUSTRALIA

22 March 2010

Sydney Ports Corporation CEO Grant Gilfillan officially welcomed the largest container vessel to ever visit Australia, the Xin Yan Tai (pronounced Zin Yan Tai) measuring nearly three football fields long.

Speaking this morning at a plaque exchange ceremony at DP World Terminal, Port Botany, Mr Gilfillan said the Xin Yan Tai was hosting a record 5688 TEU (twenty foot equivalent units) on board. It is a long-standing maritime tradition for first-time callers to be presented with an official plaque from the Port authority.

“Port Botany’s run of record container volumes continues from strength to strength, with the Port registering consecutive monthly container records since October 2009,” Mr Gilfillan said.

“The Xin Yan Tai exchanged 2750 containers whilst at Port Botany. In the past Sydney has received similar sized vessels for the removal of empty containers however, this vessel was loaded with full imports and full exports from and to the Asia region.

“With the Asia region representing over 60 per cent of Sydney’s throughput, this latest venture by China Shipping is a welcome step in Sydney’s future trade growth. Approximately 48 per cent of the vessel’s capacity is bound for the Sydney market,” Mr Gilfillan said.

Mr Gilfillan said Sydney Ports Corporation was well advanced in the construction of a new 63 hectare container terminal at Port Botany which will add 1850 metres of quay line and five new shipping berths.

“T3 will double the handling capacity at the port to meet the projected long-term trade growth for New South Wales,” Mr Gilfillan said.

“With depths of 16.5 metres, the new terminal will be able to cater for some of the world’s largest container ships – carrying up to 8,000 TEU at a time.”

Vessel Particulars are:

- Ship owner, China Shipping Container Lines.
- Built and delivered January 2005
- Length 279 metres (nearly 3 football fields long)
- Deadweight 69,225 tonnes
- Top speed 25.7 knots
- Draft when fully loaded 14.021 m