

## Media Release

# PORT BOTANY CONTAINER TRADE CONTINUES GROWTH RUN THROUGH FEBRUARY 2011

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**Friday 1 April 2011**

Sydney Ports Corporation Chief Executive Officer Grant Gilfillan announced today that total container volume through Port Botany in February 2011 was 151,100 TEU\*s (twenty foot equivalent units), an increase of almost three per cent compared with February 2010.

In releasing the Corporation's February 2011 container trade statistics, Mr Gilfillan noted "These latest results indicate that the continued growth in export trade with East Asia is delivering real benefits for the state's regional exporters.

"For the financial year to date (1 July 2010 to 28 February 2011), total container trade through Port Botany reached 1.375 million TEUs, representing an increase of 5.8 per cent on the same period last year.

"As container trade continues to grow, Sydney Ports is focussed on delivering vital infrastructure such as the Port Botany Expansion which will double the handling capacity at the port to meet projected long term trade growth for NSW.

"The project will see the provision of five additional deep water shipping berths designed to cater for the larger 8,000 TEU container vessels.

"Higher overseas demand for local products has helped push total full containerised exports in February 2011 up by 5.2 per cent when compared to the same period last year, reaching a total of 36,012 TEUs."

The primary drivers of the growth in full container exports were containerised cereals, which represent 12.2 per cent of total containerised exports for the month; chemicals which represent 11.1 per cent; machinery and transport equipment 8.7 per cent and non ferrous metals which represent 7.8 per cent.

For the financial year to date, full containerised exports were 303,550 TEUs, up 4.8 per cent on the same period last year.

Despite the growth in exports, Mr Gilfillan said Port Botany had seen a slight decrease in imported goods in February 2011 reflecting a degree of consumer caution which is undermining retail sales.

"Total container imports in February 2011 reached almost 71,000 TEUs, down 2.5 per cent on February 2010," Mr Gilfillan said.

The key import commodities are miscellaneous manufactured products which represented 23 per cent of total containerised imports, machinery & transport equipment representing 20.6 per cent, chemicals 12.4 per cent and paper products representing 8 per cent.

For the financial year to date, full containerised imports reached over 678,500 TEUs, up 4.7 per cent on the same period last year.

The majority of containerised imports were sourced from East Asia (47.5 per cent), Europe (15.1 per cent) and South East Asia (14.5 per cent), which combined accounted for 77.1 per cent of total container imports.

Total trade for the financial year to 28 February 2011 was approximately 19.9 million mass tonnes which is an increase of almost 8 per cent on the same period last year.

Mr Gilfillan said while container trade continues to grow, the base construction work on the third terminal is nearing completion.

“The site will then be handed to Hutchison Port Holdings by 1 July 2011 for fit-out and to prepare for the start of its operations in 2012,” Mr Gilfillan said.

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