

MEDIA STATEMENT

Monday 23 February 2009

WHITE BAY CRUISE VISITS

Since 1995 White Bay has been used on five occasions to provide an alternate berth for visiting cruise ships.

The use of the berths at White Bay yesterday had been at the request of the cruise company Carnival and due to the fact Sydney's two cruise passenger terminals were already booked. The Overseas Passenger Terminal is empty today.

February is the peak of the cruise season in Sydney, with a record 28 ship visits in 28 days. Sydney remains Australia's only city with two dedicated cruise terminals, one located at Circular Quay and another currently at Darling Harbour Wharf No.8.

The Dawn Princess visited Sydney on Sunday 22 February 2009, from 6.30am to 4pm with a successful passenger exchange at White Bay with the ship departing on time.

In addition there were no noise complaints or off-site traffic complaints regarding the operation.

White Bay was used as a result of a double booking by Carnival, who also had another vessel at the Overseas Passenger Terminal on Sunday 22 February.

Sydney Ports liaised extensively with Carnival to facilitate their visit to Sydney as per their schedule.

It is the cruise lines responsibility to ensure that the necessary Customs, AQIS and traffic requirements are in place.

Sydney Ports met with Carnival on a number of occasions regarding their operations at White Bay for Sunday 22 February 2009.

Sydney Ports assisted Carnival to develop traffic management plans for the exchange including use of our Vehicle Messaging System and supported Carnival in the preparation of a management plan for their operations in the White Bay facility.

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