

MEDIA RELEASE

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Wharfage Changes at Sydney's Ports

To help fund the biggest expansion of Port Botany since it was first commissioned, Sydney Ports Corporation will introduce the first wharfage charge increase since 1995, CEO Greg Martin said today.

Mr Martin said more quay line being provided as a part of the expansion means more container handling capacity for the port.

"This is good news for shipping lines who will benefit from the expansion," Mr Martin said.

"The increased charges will apply to full import containers and empty containers, bringing empty container charges into line with other Australian ports.

"The NSW business community has enjoyed significant cost savings on container wharfage for over a decade.

"Since 1991 the real cost of wharfage has fallen 69 per cent on import containers and 61 per cent on exports. There has been no charge on empty containers since 1999.

"To help exporters there will be no increase for overseas full export containers. Cost savings enjoyed by exporters over the last decade will be retained," Mr Martin said.

The changes to wharfage to be introduced from 1 September, 2007 are:

- \$20.00 per TEU (excl. GST) increase on overseas full imports
- \$10.00 per TEU (excl. GST) increase on empty containers
- No increase on full export containers

Mr Martin said port users are being provided information and notice of the wharfage charges more than 60 days in advance.

"Sydney Ports Corporation is ensuring Port Botany will cater for long-term trade growth providing certainty and reliability to shippers and users of the port," he said.

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