

## Media Release

# SYDNEY PORTS – WORKING WITH TRUCK DRIVERS AT PORT BOTANY

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**Thursday 25 February 2010**

Sydney Ports is working with industry through the Port Botany Landside Improvement strategy (PBLIS) to provide a solution to improving landside logistics at Port Botany.

Sydney Ports CEO Grant Gilfillan this morning, along with other trucking business leaders participated in a Truck Week barbecue held at Port Botany, jointly organised by the state's peak trucking industry body ATA NSW and Sydney Ports Corporation.

"Listening first hand to what the truck drivers are going through at Port Botany is important feedback as we head towards implementing some of the PBLIS initiatives," Mr Gilfillan said.

"Whilst the drivers acknowledge there has been some improvement on truck turn around time performance, they are seeking consistency of service from the Stevedores, all year round.

"In addition, the truck drivers shared with me a number of views on the Sydney Ports-led proposals to establish a commercial relationship between carriers and the stevedores, one of the key planks in the proposed Operational Performance Management framework.

"There is no doubt in my mind; we need to improve the efficiency and consistency of the system as container trade growth continues. The truck drivers are an important cog and provide a critical service as commercial partner to the stevedores."

Sydney Ports Corporation and ATA NSW have worked closely together in recent times on the Port Botany Landside Improvement Strategy which aims to improve efficiency, consistency and transparency at the port's landside interface.

"As an industry we are about shifting product efficiently by road or rail from a port, we just have to get better at doing it, the industry expect it, the community want it and its good business to do it" Mr Gilfillan said.

"These truck week activities have strengthened the links between the two groups and provided Sydney Ports staff with important feedback on how truck drivers perceive we are progressing on these important reforms.

Mr Gilfillan said the week long activities at Port Botany will help to further strengthen the relationship between the port and the trucking industry and builds on the partnerships we've built over the last few years. This includes:

- commissioning traffic management studies around the port to assist with safer truck

operations

- Placement of jersey kerbs "to prevent undercutting" by passing vehicles
- Painting existing Jersey Kerbs to improve visibility for vehicles
- The introduction of a Traffic Marshal to improve flows outside the stevedore terminals
- Installation of toilet facilities in the port precinct
- Developing Patrick & DP World queue areas on Simblist Rd
- Supporting the low exhaust emissions project managed by the RTA (engine tune ups); and
- Handing out ice creams & water to drivers during delays on hot days

“Some of these things may seem minor, but they demonstrate that beneath the hard decisions and actions we have to take to improve the Port, we are still dealing with people and their wellbeing,” Mr Gilfillan said.

In addition, Sydney Ports has been proactive in working with the Stevedores to improve communication with the trucking industry including the provision of prompt notices to better inform the trucking industry of issues and delays that may arise within the port precinct.

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