



PORT
of
TOWNSVILLE

EMAIL | info@townsville-port.com.au
WEBSITE | www.townsville-port.com.au

BENWELL ROAD | PO BOX 1031
TOWNSVILLE | QLD 4810

TELEPHONE | + 61 7 4781 1500
FACSIMILE | + 61 7 4781 1525

LATITUDE 19° 15' S | LONGITUDE 146° 50' E

Media Release

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For Immediate Release

Financial Successes Reported for 2004/2005

Import and export records, revenue increases, and major dredging were key milestones reached in 2004/2005 by the Townsville Port Authority, according to the organisation's annual report.

Just tabled in Parliament, the annual report showed the previous fiscal year was peppered with a range of trade, business, and financial successes:

→ **Records are made to be broken**

There were three import records set in 2004/2005 including: motor vehicles (17,887 tonnes, 11,150 vehicles, an increase of 14.4 per cent); general purpose oil (770,399 tonnes, an increase of 6.9 per cent); and cement (395,294 tonnes, an increase of 23 per cent).

Lead ingots (160,728 tonnes, an increase of 39 per cent); molasses (276,104 tonnes, 16.2 per cent increase); and lead concentrates (405,265 tonnes, 12 per cent increase) also set trade records for the Port of Townsville in 2004/2005.

→ **Capital works**

A security upgrade at the three Port entrances and wharves to comply with international requirements was completed at a cost of \$1.24 million and fenders on a number of the berths were upgraded at a cost of over \$1.3 million.

→ **Financial outcomes**

Revenue from all operations increased from \$27.18 million in 2003/04 to \$28.75 million in 2004/05. Operating profit before interest and tax was \$3.18 million. Net profit was \$.72 million and net assets were \$154.9 million.

→ **Maintenance**

Dredging of the inner harbour swing basin and silt trench was undertaken at a cost of \$2.2 million. Repairs to piles at the oil tanker berth, were completed at a cost of \$3 million.

→ **Commercial Port Operations**

The port welcomed 38 naval ships and seven passenger ships during 2004/05. In total, 676 ships docked at the Port. The majority (249) were bulk carriers followed by general cargo vessels (185) and tankers (113).

Commenting on the successes of the past financial year, Ron McLean, Chairman of the Townsville Port Authority said: "It's been an excellent year for the Port of Townsville with many achievements and exciting developments. Almost ten million tonnes of cargo passed over the Port's wharves during the 2004/2005 year."

Mr. McLean paid tribute to the people responsible for the results. "Such milestones could not have been achieved without the dedication and hard work from a committed and progressive Port community. It is to our customers and employees that recognition is given for this notable achievement."

Speaking on the future of the Port he said: "We are working to ensure the Port continues to move forward by liaising closely with our port users and customers, looking to expand and tap into overseas markets, and nurturing relationships already made with industries and sister cities in neighbouring nations."

Note to editor/chief of staff:

A high resolution and printer friendly version of the complete annual report and summary document is available on our website www.townsville-port.com.au

For further information, please contact Lesley McMahon, Public Affairs Officer at the Townsville Port Authority on 4781 1551. Mob: 0400 013 622 or email: lmcmahon@townsville-port.com.au.

→ Media releases are also available at www.townsville-port.com.au

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