



PORT of TOWNSVILLE

APRIL 06

rapPORT

A [W]RAP UP OF OUR ACTIVITIES FOR OUR COMMUNITY

APRIL 06



US Navy Visit Townsville

During March, US military forces carried out their biggest exercise yet in Townsville.

However, a planned four day rest visit at the end of the training exercise for the *USS Germantown*, *USS Ogden*, and *USS Peleliu* was cut short due to the onset of tropical cyclone Larry.

More than 4,000 marines and sailors planned to experience the Townsville region's tourist attractions.

The scheduled visit encompassed events ranging from various community relations activities to an onboard reception for local community and military officials. Commander Brigadier General Carl Jensen expressed his regret at the unexpected nature of the cancellation. "We are enormously disappointed that we won't be able to enjoy, first-hand, the warmth and hospitality of Townsville. We very much looked forward to socialising with the local community for a few days while in Port."

The US Navy arrived with a bang by landing hovercraft on the South Townsville beach off Benwell Road where they unloaded provisions and troops for the exercise at Stuart. Several locals turned out to watch the impressive sight of the LCACs (Landing Craft Air Cushions) as they made their way from land to sea.

US Marines used the Mt. Stuart and Townsville field training areas to conduct training that maintained their mission readiness and enhanced their war-fighting skills.

Before leaving the US, all participants completed an Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) inspection under the close supervision of Australian government inspectors. The rigorous inspection, which was conducted in February took ten days to complete. It was conducted on all principle items such as aircraft, vehicles, and trailers that were used in the exercise to ensure they conformed to the agricultural and environmental standards of the North Queensland area.



The LCACs made an impressive sight as they made their way from the sea to the Port Industrial Park adjacent to Benwell Road.

The US Navy involved in the exercise were part of the 11th MEU which is a versatile, flexible force capable of conducting a variety of missions across the spectrum of conflict - from humanitarian assistance to combat operations. Organised as a Marine Air Ground Task Force, the 11th MEU has its own combination of air, ground and support assets. The unit comprises of 2,200 marines and sailors.

After leaving the Port of Townsville the US vessels continued their routine six-month deployment to the Persian Gulf and Western Pacific regions.



Dredging Up The Past ...

In 1921 the bucket dredge *Cleveland Bay* was put into operation. It continued working for the next 30 years. The Platypus Channel became its first operation which she deepened from 18 to 26 feet.

At the Helm - From the CEO



Welcome to our second edition of rapPORT for 2006. I have pleasure in reporting on the following items:

Cyclone Preparations

The Port of Townsville initiated its emergency procedures in preparation for the effects of Severe Tropical Cyclone Larry. Ships were directed to sea by the Regional Harbour Master and the Port eventually closed its operations at 1900 hours on Sunday 19 March, reopening at 0800 hours the following day. I'd like to thank all of the Authority's employees and Port users who responded so positively and efficiently during this time. If there is anything that you believe could have been done better, please advise Dave King, Manager Marine Services, so our procedures can be improved for the future.

Aurukun Bauxite

We are very pleased that Townsville is short-listed as one of three Queensland locations in the running for a \$2.1 billion alumina refinery. Other locations under consideration are Bowen and Gladstone.

The Chinese Aluminium Company, CHALCO, is set to complete its pre-feasibility study and submit its final bid proposal to the Queensland Government by the end of May.

The Authority is working with other agencies including: Townsville City Council; Townsville Enterprise Ltd; NQ Water; and the Department of State Development, Trade, and Innovation to secure a positive outcome for the Port and the region. If successful, we will handle an additional 5.5 million tonnes of bauxite per year along with 2.1 million tonnes of alumina.

AMC Simulation

A team comprising the Manager Engineering, Regional Harbour Master, Pilot Manager, and a senior pilot from the Port of Townsville visited

the Australian Maritime College in Launceston during March to undertake ship modelling. The purpose of the modelling was to confirm that Panamax sized vessels could be navigated safely in and out of berth 11 and measure the amount and volume of dredging (if any) required for this task. At the moment the berth can only take Handimax vessels.

At a cost of \$40,000 to the Authority, the AMC set up a real-life simulation of a ship navigating in and out of berth 11. A report is due to the Authority in the near future.

The team also modelled the manoeuvre where vessels are shifted from berth 11 to an inner harbour berth without having to transit the channel, turn around, and transit back in again. If approved by the Regional Harbour Master, the manoeuvre will have a positive impact on the costs incurred by the shipping company and fatigue issues for the pilots and tug crews.

US Navy

It is very unfortunate that the US Navy had to pull its three vessels out of the visit to the Port of Townsville due to the risk of cyclone Larry. From all accounts, the crews were very disappointed. However, I would like to thank all Authority employees and Port users involved in facilitating the proposed visit of the three vessels and movements of landing barges, hovercraft, and vehicles.

Dredging

As part of Port maintenance, the Authority has commenced dredging in Ross River at a cost of approximately \$1.5 million.

The dredging, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of June 2006, will remove the sand bar hazard at the mouth of Ross River. Approximately 150,000 cubic metres will be removed and used to fill the remaining ponds in the Authority's reclamation area.

Trade Statistics (tonnes) year to date ending 28 February 2006

IMPORTS:

Cement.....	339,150.00
Concentrates - Zinc.....	140,988.00
Fertiliser.....	59,941.00
General Cargo.....	57,897.00
Motor Vehicles.....	9,745.00
Nickel Ore	2,245,201.00
Oil - General Purpose.....	523,002.00
Oil - Yabulu.....	180,657.00
Sulphur.....	84,001.00
Imports Total.....	3,640,582.00

EXPORTS:

Concentrates - Copper Berth 7.....	402,702.00
Copper - Birla	75,452.00
Concentrates - Lead Berth 11.....	272,749.00
Concentrates - Lead Berth 7.....	9,666.00
Concentrates - Zinc Berth 11.....	66,819.00
Concentrates - Zinc Berth 7.....	293,434.00
Copper Refined.....	90,790.00
General Cargo.....	75,793.00
High Analysis Fertiliser.....	548,027.00
Lead Ingots.....	90,624.00
Meat Products - By-products.....	3,601.00
Meat Products - Frozen.....	10,941.00
Meat Products - Tallow.....	7,416.00
Molasses.....	203,601.00
Nickel - Refined.....	6,408.00
Sugar.....	624,030.00
Sulphuric Acid.....	13,124.00
Timber.....	108,815.00
Zinc Ingots.....	74,941.00
Oil - General Purpose.....	7,088.00
Exports Total.....	2,986,021.00

TOTAL - IMPORTS & EXPORTS.....6,626,603.00

Astor Visits Townsville

The arrival of cruise ship *Astor* at the Port of Townsville on Saturday 11 March signaled the first cruise ship visit of 2006.

Built in 1987 and operated by Transocean Tours, *MS Astor* operates worldwide. The ship is very popular with the German cruising community. Cabins are larger than average and are equipped with a minibar, satellite TV, radio, and plenty of storage space. The vessel also has a pool and plenty of deck space.

The *Astor* is 176 metres long and has 288 passengers and 400 crew on board. The cruise ship previously visited the Port of Townsville in 2004.

Townsville Port Authority Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Barry Holden, welcomed the passengers to the Port of Townsville. "We are delighted the cruise company has chosen the Port of Townsville to host the *Astor*. We welcome the passengers and crew of the vessel and wish them a very enjoyable day in our city," he said.



Authority Jumps in to Save Island Swim

In Brief



Townsville Port Authority Manager Engineering, Mr. Larry Hore, pictured on board the *Arthur Titley* with President of the Townsville Magnetic Island Swim Association, Mr. Bob James.

Townsville Port Authority has come to the aid of the annual Magnetic Island to Townsville Swim by donating \$6,000 to the association to run the event.

Until the Authority stepped in, the future of the event was tenuous, with fears of collapse and concerns about sponsorships.

The Authority has always been a supporter of the swim and in previous years donated the use of one of its vessels, the *Arthur Titley*, and the time of its employees to tow the swimmers in their cages. The Authority also stores on its land the cages in which the swimmers use to race.

Commenting on the move by the Authority, Larry Hore, Manger Engineering, said: "we are pleased to be able to rescue this event which has been part of the history of Townsville for over fifty years. The Port of Townsville values the significance of the swim which receives international acclaim."

Mr. Bob James, President of the Townsville Magnetic Island Swim Association, expressed his gratitude for the sponsorship. "The commitment by the Port of Townsville to our swim is both a vote of confidence in Townsville's world-unique community event and the basis for a secure future for the swim and for open-water swimming in North Queensland."

The first swim was conducted in 1954 and has since become famous across Australia and the world. It is a unique event as it is the only race where swimmers race each other in shark-proof cages towed behind boats. The distance is 8 kilometres from Picnic Bay beach on Magnetic Island to Strand Park beach.

Open water distance swimming is widely-recognised and is now an Olympic Games event.

Berths 8 and 10 Tenders

Tenders for berths 8 and 10 corner fenders have been invited and works are expected to commence in the next month.

Pilot Boat

The Authority's pilot vessel, *Petrel II*, has suffered a breakdown and is currently out of action. The Townsville Region Harbour Master, Captain John Preston, has loaned his vessel to the Authority while parts are sourced for the repair work.

The Authority has purchased a second hand vessel to act as a survey vessel and backup to *Petrel II* as a pilot delivery vessel. The new vessel is currently residing in Port Douglas and will undergo engine upgrade and refurbishment before being relocated to Townsville in approximately eight weeks time.

Maritime Security Identification Card (MSIC)

Rollout of the new MSIC in Melbourne encountered IT issues and has now been moved to Brisbane.

Port of Brisbane has successfully issued approximately 400 MSIC cards to date.

This development has not affected the planned rollout schedule from DOTARS, which is expected to commence in Townsville in April. The Authority is examining the possibility of entering into an agreement with Brisbane and act as an issuing agent for the cards.

The card issuing process will involve an online application to the Authority, followed by the necessary assessments. The issue of cards will take approximately two weeks.

The cut off date for all relevant cards to be issued remains 1 January 2007. However, only personnel involved in ship-to-shore interface will require a card. Otherwise, persons will not be eligible to apply for the MSIC and current ID systems will remain in place.

Brochures with useful information for Port users on the MSIC scheme are available from Townsville Port Authority on (07) 4781 1500.

Customs Corner

Customs in North Queensland has strengthened its border security capability with the signing of two new companies as Frontline members to help prevent illegal activities.

Customs operates two community programs; Frontline, designed for industry, and Hotline, targeting the general public.

These programs play an important part in the flow of information from the Australian community in regard to the importation and exportation of illegal goods. In other words, illegal activity that otherwise might not have come to the attention of Customs.

Customs Director Regional Queensland, Andrew Hosking, visited Townsville in March to meet with Patrick Logistics and Northern Shipping & Stevedoring (NSS).

Mr. Hosking signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Elle Glashoff, Manager Patrick Logistics, and David Stringini, Manager NSS.

The Memorandum of Understanding formalises the voluntary commitment of Patrick Logistics and NSS to increase co-operation and the exchange of information with Customs in order to prevent the entry of illegal and harmful goods into Australia.

Both NSS and Patrick Logistics are key players in the international trade and shipping industries and will be valuable members to the Frontline program.

Their expertise of the industry will greatly assist Customs to gather intelligence that may lead to a successful outcome in stopping illegal activity.

While the Townsville District office has access to 24-hour support from the state and territory offices, sometimes what it needs most is the local community to be its eyes and ears. Customs encourages everyone to report any suspicious border activities to the Customs Hotline 24 hours a day on 1800 06 1800.

If you would like further information on the Customs Frontline program or how your company can become a member, contact the Townsville District Office on (07) 4722 3700.



David Stringini, Manager NSS, (left) signs the Customs Frontline Memorandum of Understanding with Customs Director Regional Queensland, Andrew Hosking.



Customs Director Regional Queensland, Andrew Hosking, with Patrick Logistics Manager, Elle Glashoff, and staff.

supPORTing OUR ENVIRONMENT

Clean Up Day Success

Land surrounding Townsville Port received some TLC when port employees and customers took to the streets for the Business Clean Up Australia Day at the end of February.

Organised by Townsville Port Authority's environmental department, the clean-up targeted the port's Environmental Park, Fishermans Wharf, the southern bank of Ross Creek, Hubert Street, and Benwell Road.

Townsville Port Authority Manager Planning and Environment, Caryn Anderson, said this was the seventh time port employees had participated in the nation-wide initiative.

"Townsville Port Authority began participating in the event in 1998, but this year's clean-up has attracted more participants than ever before," she said.

"Our participation is part of our commitment to being environmentally responsible in the workplace and the surrounding port area.

"Port employees participating in the event get a great deal of personal satisfaction out of helping keep the port area clean."

AQIS Pest of the Month

Screw-worm Fly

The Screw-worm Fly is an insect parasite of warm-blooded animals, including humans. Screw-worm flies look like Australian blowflies, with a shiny, blue-green body and red eyes. It can only be distinguished from native flies through microscopic examination or DNA analysis.

The female screw-worm fly lays up to 250 eggs in wounds on mammals. Larvae (maggots) hatch within 24 hours, enter the wound, and chew their way into healthy underlying flesh to feed. If left untreated, infested animals can die from infection and loss of tissue fluid.

The potential spread of screw-worm fly into northern Australia through either sea trade, fly strike wounds on animals, or people from Papua New Guinea make this pest one of AQIS's top targets.

AQIS has a monitoring program in the Torres Strait, on Cape York Peninsula, and in other strategic locations to ensure early detection of a screw-worm fly incursion.



Quarantine officers also inspect vessels that have transported livestock, and sentinel cattle herds are used to monitor for maggots.

For more information contact the AQIS Townsville Office on (07) 4789 7888.

Regulating Development

The Port of Townsville is Queensland's third largest commercial port with a land and sea jurisdiction of over 400 square kilometres. It handles a diverse range of products and has over 40 long-term tenants.

This article briefly discusses how development assessment, environmental compliance, major projects, and infrastructure developments occur at the Port of Townsville.

Townsville Port Authority manages the Port of Townsville and is licensed for activities undertaken by or on behalf of the Authority. The Authority also has a general environmental duty under the *Environmental Protection Act* and the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act*.

Under the *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994* the Authority is responsible for establishing, managing, and operating Port facilities and services. It is also responsible for the preparation of a Land Use Plan. The Authority has an existing Land Use Plan which was approved by the Minister for Transport in 1996. It is in the process of being updated.

Port operators are also responsible for these general duties but, depending on the nature and scale of the operations, the Port customer may be assessed and monitored by Environmental Protection Agency or Townsville City Council as the administrative authority. Port customers are required to comply with lease conditions and Port Notices.

Development on Strategic Port Land

Strategic Port land is not subject to local government planning schemes. Instead, Townsville Port Authority regulates development on this land and is the assessment manager for all applications, regardless of whether the development is consistent or inconsistent with the Land Use Plan.

All development applications are assessed in accordance with the *Integrated Planning Act 1997* (IPA). The IPA establishes an integrated development assessment system (IDAS). IDAS is the regulatory framework that establishes a common system for making, assessing, and deciding applications, regardless of the nature of the development, its location in Queensland or the authority administering the regulatory control.

For example, a material change of use for an environmentally relevant activity on strategic Port land is considered assessable development. Townsville Port Authority is the Assessment Manager with the relevant state agency (Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Industry and Fisheries and/or Department of Emergency Services) providing comments/conditions on the activity.

Keep an eye out in future issues of *rapPORT* for planning updates relating to the Port of Townsville. Further information can be obtained from the Authority's Planning Officer, Catherine Hobbs, on (07) 4781 1610.

Under the Microscope - Adsteam

Name: Adsteam Australasia
Operations Manager NQ: Mark Rogers
Employees: 30 in Townsville
Website Address: www.adsteam.com.au

Adsteam Australasia provides tug services to vessels at the Port of Townsville. The tug berth is located at the end of berths 8 and 9. Adsteam Australasia operates two tugs in the port of Townsville, *Giru* and *Werra*.

Adsteam Australasia also provides the launch and line service for mooring and unmooring of vessels.

The company is unique in its ability to cover breakdowns and emergency responses by rapidly relocating tugs within the North Queensland fleet. This service proved necessary last year when the *Giru* suffered major engine failure and was out of action for a number of months. Adsteam responded quickly and another tug was sourced from Mourilyan to cover the *Giru*. The replacement tug arrived in Townsville only eight hours after *Giru's* breakdown.

The Port of Townsville operation also runs the tug boat service in Cairns, Mourilyan, and Lucinda.

Tugs

A tug, or tugboat, is a motor ship used to push or pull other vessels at the Port of Townsville. Tugs are quite strong for their size. Early tugs had steam engines, today diesel engines are used. Tugs have a top speed of about 10 knots (20 km/h).

Parent Company

Adsteam Marine is its parent company and covers more than 57 major container, bulk and general cargo ports in Australia, the South Pacific, and the UK. It serves an international customer base with a fleet of 150 tug boats and more than 50 other vessels.



Tug Master, Mr. Bob Chad, at work.



Tug at work in the Port of Townsville.

Vision

To create an unrivalled competitive capability within the ship assist industry such that Adsteam is the preferred provider in every location where it chooses to operate.

Mission

To provide fit for purpose, value for money, ship assist services more cost-effectively than its competitors.

History

The history of the company dates back to 1875 with the formation of The Adelaide Steamship Company. Adsteam's towage operations in Townsville can be traced back to 1967, a history of almost 40 years, with name changes and acquisition along the way.

Main Customers

Adsteam's major customers in Townsville include; Queensland Sugar, Xstrata, BHP Billiton, and Queensland Nickel. Other customers include; Cement Australia, Korea Zinc, Southern Cross Fertilisers, Incitec Pivot, BP, Shell, Caltex, and Origin.

Safety and the Environment

Successful safety and environmental management is the highest priority for Adsteam Marine. Adsteam has implemented a number of initiatives towards achieving and delivering superior safety management.

The company achieved certification to the quality assurance standard ISO 9001:2000, and was one of the first towage operators in the world to adopt the ISM Code as the framework for a safety management system. Currently, the majority of Adsteam's towage operations in Australia have achieved ISM accreditation.

Future

Adsteam Australasia hopes to continue providing services at the Port of Townsville which receives more than 700 vessels each year.

Customer and Community Surveys Launched

The Authority has launched the second in its annual customer and community feedback surveys.

Customer satisfaction and positive community feedback are important elements of the Authority's strategic planning and performance monitoring processes. The survey results will provide a useful resource for benchmarking and setting future performance targets.

Customer Survey

The purpose of the customer survey is to determine areas of success as well as areas of potential improvement. It will ascertain levels of satisfaction with services and infrastructure, satisfaction with the level of communication, and views regarding how the organisation can improve its services.

Last year, a total of 54 people from 52 different organisations were interviewed. Overall, most respondents were happy with their relationship with Townsville Port Authority.

The range of respondents encompassed the whole scope of business and government agencies that operate in the Port of Townsville. It included lessees that have minimal contact with Townsville Port Authority, to those businesses that are in daily contact with Port Control.

Community Survey

Townsville Port Authority wants to ascertain the level of awareness of the 'Port' and 'Townsville Port Authority' within the community.

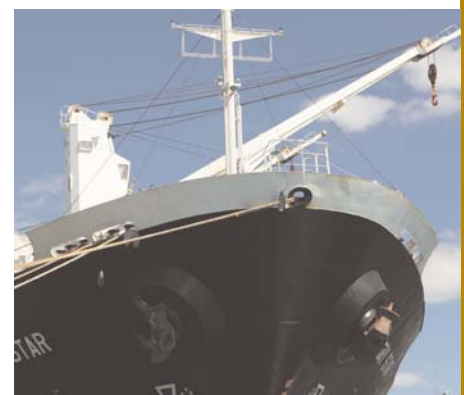
The results from last year's survey indicated that the community didn't know a great deal about the Port of Townsville. However, when specifically asked to rate the Authority's importance in underpinning Townsville's progress, on balance, it was seen as 'very important'. Overall, Townsville Port Authority was seen as environmentally responsible.

2006 Surveys

Transpac Consulting Pty. Ltd. will conduct the surveys on behalf of the Authority. The customer survey should take approximately eight minutes to complete and participation is voluntary. Survey responses are strictly confidential.

The community survey will be conducted by telephone interview. Each interview should take no longer than ten minutes.

Approximately four hundred local residents will be surveyed, comprising of 50 from South Townsville and the remainder from the rest of Townsville.



The results of the customer survey will be presented to the Authority's customers during a breakfast at the end of May. Results from the community survey will be made available through rapPORT.

If you have any questions about the survey procedures please email Transpac Consulting at w.powell@transpac.net.au.

Southern Move for Planning and Environment Manager



Caryn Anderson, the Authority's Manager Planning and Environment, will be leaving the Authority on Friday, 21 April, to take up the position of General Manager – Planning with the Port of Melbourne.

Caryn returned to the Authority in 2003 after spending three years in London.

Barry Holden, Townsville Port Authority Chief Executive Officer, said: "The Port of Townsville has been fortunate to benefit from Caryn's expertise and experience. She has overseen many significant projects and achievements in her time with us. It is a great loss to our organisation, but certainly this is an excellent opportunity for Caryn, and we wish her all the best."

Until alternative arrangements are finalised, Raneë Crosby, the Authority's Manager Corporate Governance, will be acting in the position of Manager Planning and Environment.

Ross River Dredging Commences

Navigation in Ross River will be improved with the commencement of dredging by Townsville Port Authority. The dredging, as part of port maintenance, will be undertaken at a cost of approximately \$1.5 million.

The dredging, scheduled to be completed by the end of June 2006, involves removing the natural infill from Ross River. The program will be undertaken in accordance with strict environmental guidelines.

The operation will remove the sand bar hazard at the mouth of Ross River and will benefit the local community and industry by providing easier navigation and maintaining desired depths in the river. It is estimated that almost 150,000 cubic metres will be removed from the mouth of the river.

The dredged material will be used to fill the remaining ponds in the Authority's reclamation area which will make the area ready for future development.

Vessel operators and the public are advised to stay well away from the dredge, tenders, and pipelines in the interests of safety.

Dredging operations will be conducted on a 24-hour per day, seven days per week basis, with normal maritime communication protocols applicable.

Dredging of the inner harbour with grab dredge equipment has also commenced. Spot dredging is currently underway in berth 2 pocket and will progress to other berth pockets within the next month.

events

april

4-6: Mount Isa Mining Expo.

21: Pacific Princess Cruise Ship visit.

may

4-6: World's Greatest Shave.

13-14: Queensland Cancer Fund Relay for Life.

17: Port Advisory Body meeting.

23: Port Community Partnerships Forum Meeting.

Townsville Shortlisted for Alumina Refinery

The Queensland Government announced in March that CHALCO, the Chinese Aluminium Company, was a preferred tenderer for development of the Aurukun bauxite deposit situated approximately 100 km south of Weipa in far North Queensland.

Townsville is short-listed as one of three Queensland locations in the running for a \$2.1 billion alumina refinery. Other locations under consideration are Bowen and Gladstone.

The provisional proposal involves an estimated workforce of 3,100 over a three-year period of the refinery's construction. When operational it would have a direct permanent work force of about 470.

Aluminum ore, called bauxite, is most commonly formed in deeply weathered rocks. Aluminum has a wide range of common uses. It is lightweight, strong, and conducts heat well. Many kitchen items (pots and pans, foil, dishes) are made of aluminum.

Most materials used for transportation use large amounts of aluminum: cars, trucks, boats, aircraft, and aircraft engines. Road signs and high-voltage power lines are also made mostly of aluminum.

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To submit suggestions for articles on Townsville Port and the shipping industry for future editions email publicaffairs@townsville-port.com.au.

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Community Forum Members Tour Southern Cross Fertilisers



The latest Port Community Partnerships Forum meeting held in February took a tour of the Southern Cross Fertiliser facilities and learned about the fertiliser storage and export process.

After the tour, the members discussed items including: the Port Access Corridor; potential landscaping beside the new sugar shed; the Maritime Security Identification Card (MSIC); the Ocean Terminal project; the Authority's new Land Use Plan; and parking at the boat ramps at Ross Creek.