



**PORT of
TOWNSVILLE**

Nexus North Queensland

JUNE 05

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rapPORT

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



2005 Export Awards Launched

THE region's top exporters, business, and government leaders gathered together at the WMC Fertilizers shed in the Port of Townsville, on Thursday, 5 May, to officially launch the 2005 Townsville Region Export Awards and the Premier of Queensland's Export Awards.

The Honourable Peter Beattie, Premier and Minister for Trade, officially opened nominations for the awards that recognise exporting excellence by companies in the region and the state.

Mr. Beattie said: "The export awards are a key part of the Queensland Government's strategy to encourage exporters and showcase our globally competitive industries.

"These awards promote exporting which is critical to Queensland's economic development, prosperity, and international profile.

"Exports contribute to job creation and the overall health of the Queensland economy. One in five jobs depends on exports, a figure that rises to one in four jobs nationally. Anything we can do to encourage more exporting by Queensland companies is worthwhile because it generates more jobs for Queenslanders."

The launch also included an address by Townsville Port Authority Chairman, Ron McLean, who outlined the key role exporters have played in the regions' economic prosperity.

Applications for this years' Townsville Region Export Awards close on 27 July, with the winners to be announced at a gala dinner later this year.

The annual awards aim to recognise local companies that excel in their exporting fields, with categories in the Townsville event including agribusiness, large advanced manufacture, tourism, and the Port of Townsville Exporter of the Year Award.

Mr. Beattie urged all exporters to consider entering the Export Awards. "It is a great opportunity to promote your business and showcase your achievements. It could also earn yourself, your industry, and your region some well deserved national and international recognition."

The Townsville Region Export Awards winners will be announced at a gala dinner on 30 September 2005 at Jupiters Hotel and Casino. Port Customers who wish to apply should contact the Department of State Development or apply online at www.exportawards.qld.gov.au.

Anyone wishing to enter can apply for both the Townsville Region Export Awards and the Premier of Queensland Export Awards.



Dredging up the past...

Outer Harbour, Townsville, 1910.

At the helm - from the CEO



I am pleased to announce that I have been reappointed as Chief Executive Officer of the Port Authority for another three years. I am looking forward to the challenges and successes that lie ahead for the Port of Townsville.

EXPORT AWARDS LAUNCH

The 2005 Premier of Queensland and Townsville Region Export Awards were launched by the Premier of Queensland in a ceremony conducted in the WMC Fertiliser shed. The venue provided a dramatic backdrop for the launch.

Townsville Port Authority is the principle sponsor for the Townsville Regional awards again this year. Port customers who wish to apply for these awards should contact the Department of State Development for details or apply online at www.exportawards.qld.gov.au.

SURVEYS

The Authority has commissioned a consultant to undertake surveys to determine the opinions and attitudes of the local community, Port Customers, and our employees - which will help us to improve our services. I would like to thank all those who took time to complete the surveys.

INTERACTIVE CD/DVD

The Authority has launched an educational CD/DVD on the Port of Townsville. We have distributed it to high schools in the region. It also serves as a useful research tool on the Port and is great for educating any new employees, contractors, etc, on the workings of our Port.

TRADE OPPORTUNITIES

Townsville Port Authority is actively pursuing a number of trade opportunities - however most of these details remain commercial in confidence. I can report that a delegation from the Authority recently visited a number of Western Australian Ports to examine loading and unloading operations. Included was a visit to Esperance to examine their iron ore operations. This year Esperance expects to load 8 million tonnes of iron ore using the most environmentally sensitive operation for the product in Australia.

Representatives from the Chinese steel industry also visited Townsville Port looking at opportunities for the export of iron ore. We are optimistic that we will see exports commence within the next 6-to-12 months.

ALLEGED DUST

There have been a number of reports published in the Townsville Bulletin alleging dust from the port is settling on residences on Yarrowonga. Other people have claimed that they are getting 'Port' dust as far away as Pallarenda, Mundingburra, and West End.

The Authority and Port customers actively manage their operations to minimise dust emissions at the port. This includes a real time dust monitoring program - the results of which indicate that the dust emissions at the Port are well within state guidelines. The Authority takes claims such as this seriously and is currently undertaking further investigations to assess these allegations.

Trade Statistics (tonnes) year to date ending 30 April 2005

IMPORTS:

Cement	314,366.00
Concentrates Zinc	137,429.00
Fertiliser.....	99,938.00
General Cargo.....	86,411.00
Motor Vehicles.....	14,964.00
Nickel ore	2,935,200.00
Oil - general purpose.....	639,362.00
Oil - Yabulu.....	200,809.00
Sulphuric Acid.....	10,085.00
Sulphur	72,465.00
Imports Total.....	4,511,028.00

EXPORTS:

Cattle	1,094.00
Concentrates - Copper B7	349,763.00
Copper - Birla	66,265.00
Concentrates - Lead B11	324,070.00
Concentrates - Lead B7	20,719.00
Concentrates - Zinc Bth 11	119,037.00
Concentrates - Zinc Bth 7	245,953.00
Copper refined	112,123.00
Feed pellets	267.00
General cargo.....	97,458.00
Higher analysis fertiliser.	677,995.00
Lead ingots.	124,868.00
Meat products - by products	13,219.00
Meat products - frozen.....	16,203.00
Meat products - tallow	10,454.00
Molasses.	272,084.00
Nickel - refined.....	9,721.00
Sand/gravel	9,807.00
Sugar.....	986,696.00
Sulphuric Acid.	47,876.00
Timber.....	46,756.00
Zinc ingots.....	112,694.00
Exports total.	3,665,122.00

TOTAL - IMPORTS & EXPORTS..... 8,176,150.00

AQIS pest alert

>> MARINE PESTS

MARINE pests carried in ballast water can have severe effects on biodiversity, maritime industries such as fisheries, shipping, aquaculture, tourism and human health. They can also be expensive to eradicate. Exotic jellyfish, seastars, crabs, marine snails, and seaweed can be found in ballast water.

An AQIS target is toxic micro-algae called dinoflagellates which, in the right conditions, can cause algal 'blooms'. The toxins produced by the algae can be ingested by filter-feeding shellfish such as oysters and mussels, and can cause paralytic shellfish poisoning. AQIS is the lead agency for managing the risks posed by ballast water taken up overseas. Part of AQIS's charter is to ensure that foreign ballast water has been managed in accordance with Australia's requirements before they can allow it to be discharged inside Australia's territorial waters (a 12 nautical limit generally applies).

AQIS manages foreign ballast water by requiring vessels to exchange water in their ballast tanks at sea, under strict AQIS guidelines that are consistent with guidelines from the International Maritime Organisation. AQIS officers also inspect ships' ballast tanks to ensure these requirements have been complied with. Vessels that don't meet the requirements are sent back out to sea to complete a full exchange before they can unload their cargo.

For more information please contact AQIS on 07 4789 7888.



Prepare to set sail

Townsville-based company, Powerplay Catamarans, will launch its fourth luxurious Catamaran into foreign waters this month – valued at a cool \$1.2 million.

THE 17 metre Catamaran will be exported to the Dominican Republic this month. With another order already placed for a Caribbean buyer, it seems this local company is making an impression globally.

“Many of our orders are a direct result of attending the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show in October 2003,” Powerplay Catamaran Proprietor Nicole Dewing said.

“The Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show is the largest of its kind in the world, featuring more than \$1.6 billion worth of boats, yachts, superyachts, electronics, engines, and thousands of accessories from every major marine manufacturer and builder worldwide.

“With the high calibre of product on show at Fort Lauderdale each year, we are very happy that we have been able to tap into this lucrative international market.”

Powerplay Catamarans has undergone substantial growth in the past two years.

Recently the local operator has moved to a new purpose built factory within the Port of Townsville where they are able to launch and directly export their boats.

In addition, Powerplay Catamarans has moulded its product to enable a reduction in production time and therefore increase productivity.

“We have also set up a dealer network in more than 12 countries worldwide and were recipients of the Regional Emerging Exporter of the Year award last year,” Ms Dewing said.



“We pride ourselves on our spacious and ergonomic designs and only use the best fittings and instruments available.

“We are also very proud of the fact that we use local suppliers as much as possible.”

Customs Corner

CUSTOMS is often asked what it does about yachts and other smallcraft that travel to or arrive from overseas.

Smallcraft are divided into three groups: Australian residents departing and returning; international tourists; or persons importing yachts.

ARRIVAL

Like commercial vessels, smallcraft require Customs, Immigration, and Quarantine clearance. They must advise Customs at least 48 hours prior to arrival in Australia. This can be done by emailing: yachtreport@customs.gov.au, phoning on +61 3 9244 8973, or radio contact. They will have to provide details on: the name of the craft; intended first port of arrival; estimated arrival time; last four ports; the details of people on board including name, date of birth, nationality and passport number; details of any illness or disease recently encountered; if any animals are on board; and if any firearms are on board. All smallcraft are boarded on arrival by both Customs and Quarantine and are subject to inspection.

DEPARTURE

All departures must apply for a certificate of clearance from the local Customs Office. Yachts can only arrive and depart from approved ports. In Townsville, the fuel berth at the Breakwater Marina is an approved place for the arrival of international yachts.

Australian yachts returning will need to provide details of departure from Australia to obtain tax free clearance back into Australia. Any improvements to the yacht while overseas may be subject to duty and GST.

INTERNATIONAL TOURIST YACHTS

All persons must have visas - otherwise fines apply. Once cleared into Australia the Master can apply for a cruising permit to travel within Australian waters. This is usually given for the length of the Masters visa. Cruising permits are for tourist purposes only; the yacht can't undertake charter work or be sold without the permission of Customs. Cruise permit vessels are not required to pay import taxes as long as they depart Australia at the end of their permit.

IMPORTING SMALLCRAFT

They are subject to normal clearance and are treated like any other imported goods and are subject to import duty and taxes.

Further information can be found on www.customs.gov.au.

US Navy Docs in Port



USS Bunker Hill and (inset) the ships Commanding Officer, Captain Richard W. Durham.

THE American warship USS Bunker Hill arrived in Port in May for a five day stopover. The vessel had a crew of 390 people.

Bunker Hill was commissioned September 20, 1986, in Boston, MA, within sight of the historic monument commemorating her namesake battle. The USS Bunker Hill's mission is to protect Navy battle groups from a variety of threats and was given the nickname Vertical Swordsman.

Bunker Hill sailed in support of Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm. It was one of the first ships to launch Tomahawk Land Attack Missiles against Iraqi forces in 2003. It would eventually launch a total of 28 Tomahawks.

Over the years, the crew of Bunker Hill has seen and participated in many special events, including engaging in various multinational operations in the South East Asian region. She has participated in training exercises involving the military forces of Thailand, South Korea, India, Malaysia, and Japan.

In 1993, Bunker Hill made a historic visit to the Russian city Vladivostok. One year later, she made a port visit to Qingdao in the People's Republic of China, the first U.S. Navy ship to have visited the PRC since 1989.

Further information on USS Bunker Hill can be sourced from <http://www.navy.mil/>.

supPORTing

OUR ENVIRONMENT



Port Oil Spill Response



Oiled bird during a 'Baltic Carrier' incident in Denmark 2001.

DESPITE best endeavours in product handling and ship management practices, oil spills can happen. The Port of Townsville is well prepared to ensure that should such an event occur, trained personnel with appropriate equipment will respond to it promptly.

Oil spills in Australia are managed under the National Plan to Combat Pollution of the Sea by Oil and other Noxious and Hazardous Substances administered by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority. These arrangements have been transferred to Queensland through the Queensland Coastal Contingency Action Plan which is administered by

Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ). Townsville Port Authority has entered into a Deed of Agreement to provide first strike assistance to respond to oil spills within Port limits. As part of this agreement a local contingency plan has been developed to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the various agencies involved in responding to an oil spill in Townsville.

To assist in oil spill response there is a significant stockpile of equipment held in Townsville. This equipment is available for immediate deployment in the event of a local incident and may be called upon for significant incidents in the Great Barrier Reef or anywhere in Australia.

It is illegal to discharge oil into the marine environment. In Queensland, oil spills from ships are managed by MSQ and from land by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Any oil spill should be reported as soon as possible so that the oil can be contained, where appropriate, and removed from the environment to minimise environmental damage.

All oil spills are different and the response measures adopted for each oil spill will vary depending on the nature of the oil, the location of the spill, and the weather conditions at the time of the incident.

For more information on oil spill management in Australia and Queensland, visit the MSQ website on: <http://www.msq.qld.gov.au/>, or the Australian Maritime Safety Authority on: <http://www.amsa.gov.au/>.



Shoreline cleanup by local volunteers in Denmark, 2001.

Sun Metals keep spills under control

SUN Metals Corporation (SMC) ensures that all spills are handled appropriately at their zinc refinery site through the implementation of a Spill Policy and Procedure Manual (PPM).

Due to the acidic conditions involved in the hydrometallurgical process at SMC, corrosion and equipment failure can result. It is therefore very important that a procedure is in place in the event of a spill to ensure that it is handled safely and promptly. The PPM outlines the necessary steps that need to be taken to ensure this can occur.

The main aspects of SMC's spill control PPM are:

1. Stop the source of the spill and inform the department superintendent/team leader immediately;
2. Contain the spill to prevent spreading and entry into the stormwater system;

3. Neutralise acidic solution spill with earth lime;
4. Clean-up the spill as soon as possible and dispose of the waste materials appropriately;
5. Report the spill by completing an Environmental Incident Report Form.

Operators are made aware of the spill procedure through their team leaders and step-by-step procedure summaries are pinned on notice boards for quick reference.

The Environmental Section at SMC is responsible for investigating the cause of the spill and the implementation of corrective actions to prevent re-occurrence as well as ensuring the area has been cleaned up sufficiently.



Oil spill response operations during a 'natuna Sea' incident in Indonesia, 2000.

Dispelling the Myths

Port Community Partnerships Forum discusses boat ramps, air quality, and water quality issues



Parking without a trailer at the public boat ramp on Sr. Leslie Theiss Drive has caused headaches for the larger boat owners in Townsville.

TOWNSVILLE Port Authority is responsible for maintaining and managing the two public boat ramps located on Sir Leslie Thiess Drive (Ross Creek). The Authority also provides and maintains facilities on the land such as car parking, toilets, water, lighting, etc. The Authority does not receive any funding or revenue for managing the public boat ramp facilities.

The Community Partnerships Forum expressed concerns during a recent meeting regarding the number of vehicles parking in the car park on weekends and public holidays without trailers, causing an inconvenience to the boating public. The Authority was requested to consider options to prevent the continued use of the area by vehicles without trailers. A number of options were explored. These included paid parking, trailer-only parking at all times, third party management, and towing of vehicles. These options were excluded for various reasons.

The actions being taken by the Authority to address this issue are detailed below.

IMPROVED SIGNAGE

The Authority will be improving signage at the entrance to the boat ramps, and within the car park area to ensure the restriction on parking without a trailer on weekends and public holidays is prominently displayed.

INCREASED SURVEILLANCE

The Authority will also be increasing surveillance on weekends and public holidays by Port Services Officers to ensure infringement notices are issued for vehicles parked without a trailer.

PROSECUTION FOR INFRINGEMENT NOTICES

The Authority has registered under the State Penalties Enforcement Registry. In future where an infringement notice remains unpaid, and there is no agreement between the Authority and the offender, the Authority will refer the matter to SPER for further enforcement. Penalties can include the suspension of the debtors drivers license until the debt is paid, the seizure and sale of the property, or even being arrested and sent to prison.

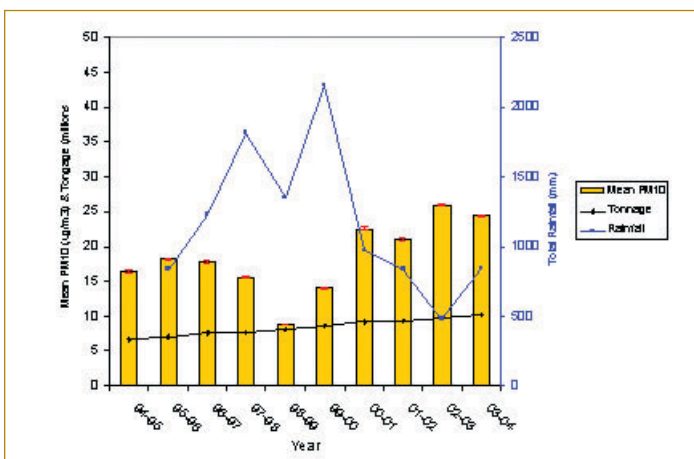
City air quality remains below state guidelines

AIR quality monitoring at the Port of Townsville was established in 1995 and is part of the Queensland Air Quality Monitoring Network. This is a comprehensive network of real time monitoring with dust deposition, which is co-operatively funded by the port community.

The results from this comprehensive program have demonstrated that the air quality at the Port of Townsville is well within State guidelines, better than air quality in Garbutt, and strongly influenced by rainfall events and wet seasons. A comparison of dust emissions and trade throughput indicates that there is no correlation between dust and trade volumes.

Realtime air quality monitoring can be found on:
http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/environmental_management/air/air_quality_monitoring/.

The Port data is downloaded directly by the EPA in Brisbane and uploaded to the EPA website which is then forwarded to the TPA for consideration and analysis. The Authority and wider Port community are currently working with the EPA to expand the Townsville dust monitoring network.



Port water not polluted



WATER quality monitoring at the Port of Townsville is carried out during the dry season and wet season and tests the surface water quality at 32 sampling locations within the Inner Harbour, Ross Creek, Ross River, and the Outer Harbour.

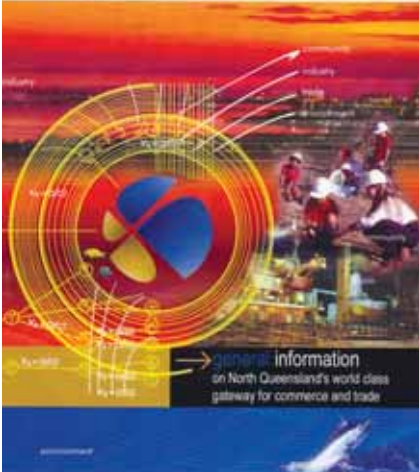
The water is tested for heavy metals, nutrients, and hydrocarbons.

Water quality is monitored to manage Port operations and is combined with hydrodynamic information to improve the Port's understanding of the receiving environment and the potential impact of Port operations and water catchment activities.

Water quality in Ross River, Ross Creek and the Port is generally within the guidelines and considered not polluted.

The Authority is currently preparing summaries of the results of these monitoring programs for public dissemination.

Port Authority Launches New Interactive CD/DVD



Townsville Port Authority has launched its new educational tool - an interactive information CD and DVD on the Port of Townsville.

The CD/DVD has been sent to high schools in the region - from Townsville to Mount Isa, Ingham, and Ayr.

It aims to educate the general public and students on the impact the Port has on their lives, providing students with up-to-date information on the Port of Townsville from their desktop.

The CD and DVD contains useful facts and graphics, information on the history of the Port, the environment, links with the community, Port people, videos, shipping, imports and exports, security, and the future. It also contains a children's section with exercises and games so even the youngest user can enjoy it.

Barry Holden, Port Authority CEO, said: "We hope this CD/DVD will prove to be a useful information and study tool for students. They can browse through the CD/DVD and learn all about the significant role the Port of Townsville has on the economy and life of North Queensland, since its inception in the late 1800's."

Copies of the CD/DVD are available by contacting Public Affairs Officer, Lesley Giblin on 4781 1551.

events

june

13: Queen's Birthday Public Holiday.

15: Red Cross visit to the Port

Mid June: Talisman Saber - joint exercise between Australian and American Defence Forces.

july

31: Port Authority Tree Day.

Pacific Princess Returns to Town

THE cruise ship, *Pacific Princess* docked in the Port of Townsville on Monday, 18 April, with approximately 650 passengers and 320 crew on board, ready to experience the city of Townsville.

The vessel, which was built in November 2001, stayed for one day in Townsville. It had just returned from a voyage to Tasmania, New Zealand, and Fiji.

The vessel has eleven decks with grand staircases, leather-panelled walls and plush carpeting providing a feeling of a 'country club'. Over 90 per cent of the cabins have ocean views. Facilities on board include two outdoor jacuzzis, a gymnasium and spa centre with a ship-top swimming pool and jogging track. There are eight bars and lounges, a casino and an internet library.

Townsville Port Authority Chief Executive Officer, Barry Holden, said: "We are delighted the cruise company chose the Port of Townsville to host the *Pacific Princess* for the second time this year."

No public access was available to the ship during its visit.

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This newsletter is a regular, free publication of Townsville Port Authority.

An on-line version of this and other publications is available at www.townsville-port.com.au.

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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Ross Creek dumping ground



TOWNVILLE Port Authority has uncovered a few surprises since it started dredging Ross Creek a few weeks ago - waste material and rubbish dumped in the creek by the general public.

The discovery was made during routine dredging between the swing basin at the CB Marine slipway and the Denham Street Bridge.

Some of the materials include bicycles, old cans, plastic bags, tyres, old carpet, and the ubiquitous shopping trolley, all of which can cause enormous damage to our water systems and environment.

Mr. Barry Holden, Chief Executive Officer of the Townsville Port Authority, said: "The rubbish has the potential to affect Port operations as well as other living things, the marine organisms with which we share our environment. It is also slowing down Port Authority dredging operations in Ross Creek and increasing the cost of the operation."

Mr. Holden went on to say that many people did not realise that more than 10,000 hectares of Townsville's stormwater drainage system empties into Ross Creek which then discharges into the harbour.

Mr. John Preston, Regional Harbourmaster Townsville with Maritime Safety Queensland, said: "We were also very surprised and disappointed with the levels of waste material which has been dumped in the creek. I am concerned that this waste could end up being a hazard to navigation for vessels in the Creek. I urge members of the public to refrain from dumping material in the creek and to discard your rubbish at appropriate locations."

The dredging, scheduled to be completed by the end of June 2005, involves removing the natural infill from Ross Creek. The program is undertaken in accordance with strict environmental guidelines. It is being conducted by the Authority's employees using its own plant and equipment, including grab dredging and bed levelling equipment.