



**TOMAX
NEWS**

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PLUS:



MARKET SUMMARY

- Ocean freight rates continue to plummet around the globe with pricing on many trade-lanes reaching all-time record lows. The importation of miscellaneous manufactured goods is down in year-on-year figures for the month of March. Shipping lines are unlikely to get any opportunities over the next few months to introduce price increases whilst demand remains low.
- The recent introduction of the Free Trade Agreement with India has led to an increased desire by importers to look to the populous nation as a potential alternative for sourcing goods. There remain some deterrents however with transit times from India quite long in comparison to those from South and East Asia.
- Did you know that Tomax provides a vast range of domestic transport, warehousing and storage services? Talk to one of our friendly team on 1300 186 629 to find out more.

TARIFF CONCESSIONS GAZETTE (TC)

Tariff Concession Orders (TCOs) are an Australian Government revenue concession that exists where there are no known Australian manufacturers of goods that are substitutable for imported goods. You can stay up to date with the weekly gazette via the Tomax Newsletter.

[CLICK TO VIEW LATEST GAZETTE](#)



WAITING TIME CAUSED BY FOOTSCRAY ROAD CLOSURE

Dear Valued Clients,

Please be informed that due to major roadworks currently underway on Footscray road, our transport companies are experiencing significant delays in the delivery of goods. We regret to inform you that this has resulted in waiting times being incurred, which we will unfortunately have to pass on to our clients.

We understand that this may cause inconvenience and frustration, and we sincerely apologise for any disruption this may cause to your operations. We would like to assure you that we are working closely with our transport partners to minimise the impact of these delays, and we will do our utmost to ensure that your orders are delivered to you as soon as possible.

We would also like to remind you that our customer service teams are available to assist you with any questions or concerns you may have about your deliveries. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require further information or if you would like to discuss any issues related to your orders.

Below is some information from the Victorian Government explaining the closures that are affecting the wharf precinct and once again, we apologise for the inconvenience caused and thank you for your patience and understanding during this time.

Best regards,
Tomax Logistics



VICTORIA'S BIG BUILD

Major works in Autumn 2023

As part of the West Gate Tunnel Project, we're widening the West Gate Freeway from 8 to 12 through lanes and building new connections to the city and CityLink to make it easier and quicker to get around. This autumn, we will be carrying out a series of complex structural works, affecting how you'll get to and from the city. From late March, there will be road, ramp and lane closures near Williamstown Road, Footscray Road (outbound) and the West Gate Bridge (outbound).

Footscray Road – full closure of outbound carriageway between Dock Link Road and Appleton Dock Road (from 11pm Thursday 30 March to late May)

Footscray Road outbound carriageway between Dock Link Road and Appleton Dock Road will be closed 24/7 from 11pm Thursday 30 March until late May.

Why this closure is needed

This is the next phase in a series of closures as our massive crane (also known as the launching gantry) continues building Melbourne's newest motorway above Footscray Road. Since the beginning of 2023, the crane has been working over the citybound carriageway of Footscray Road. It has now switched sides and heading back west to safely build the new road connections to Dynon Road, Footscray Road and CityLink. From January to June, the crane will be making its way directly over Footscray Road to lift and install nearly 400 concrete segments (each weighing up to 100 tonnes), to build these connections. To ensure the safety of all road users and our crews, Footscray Road will be closed in one direction at a time as the work is carried out. As the launching gantry progresses, further closures of some citybound and westbound lanes will be carried out until June 2023. Further information will be provided closer to the date to allow motorists to plan their journey.

Detour

From 30 March detour via Dynon Road for westbound travel. Citybound will remain open. Allow an extra 15 minutes travel time.

PORT OF MELBOURNE: MARCH COMPARISON REPORT

Port of Melbourne has reported a decrease in container volumes in March 2023, with a total of 267,294 TEU - a 2.3% decrease in comparison to March 2022. Year-to-date container volumes were down 0.2%. Further statistics comparing March 2023 to March 2022 saw:

- Full overseas imports was up 2.7% with paperboard, clothing and electrical machinery higher than last year's volumes.
- Shipments of furniture, domestic appliances and miscellaneous manufactures were below last year's volumes.
- Full overseas exports dropped 1.8% with paperboard, hay and fodder and wine all less than last year's volumes.
- Empty container movements at the Port of Melbourne increased by 4.5%.
- Breakbulk was up 25.8%.
- Liquid bulk was up 22.9%.
- Dry bulk trade was up 8.7%.

Currently, Port of Melbourne advised container trade for April 2023 is tracking above the comparative month last year.



COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS DEVELOP CARBON CALCULATOR

Cario, a company specialising in freight management software, has teamed up with Swinburne University of Technology to create a carbon calculator that can help businesses make informed decisions regarding freight consignment. The online tool will enable companies to choose the most environmentally-friendly shipment methods, such as shipping via road or rail freight. The carbon calculator was developed by data scientists at Cario based on a prototype created by Swinburne undergraduate students and researchers in 2020.

Fiona Marshall, the director of Cario, stated that the transport sector is responsible for 16% of Australia's carbon emissions, making it imperative to find innovative solutions to reduce this output. She emphasised the significance of taking the industry one step closer to becoming more eco-friendly. Since the launch of the calculator, Cario's clients have become more aware of their scope 3 carbon output, and they can now see how much carbon dioxide is emitted by each vehicle type/size and the load portion.

The carbon calculator also shows users the number of trees that must be planted to offset their emissions. Marshall believes that the calculator is a perfect example of bringing the next generation of logistics and freight industry leaders together to help solve real-world problems and interact with industry partners in a dynamic way.

According to Associate Professor Hadi Ghaderi, the discipline leader for logistics and supply chain management at Swinburne, the university focuses on developing programs that prepare students for "careers of the future." The collaboration with Cario has strengthened the linkages between the university and the industry, creating industry-ready graduates by offering real-world experience.

Williams, A. (2023). FREIGHT EMISSIONS CALCULATOR COMES ONLINE. Retrieved from <https://www.thedcn.com.au/news/environment/freight-emissions-calculator-comes-online/> on 26th April, 2023.



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Saul Cannon, Port of Melbourne CEO, said decarbonisation of the maritime industry is gaining pace. He said, “as Australia’s largest container port with around 3000 ships visiting annually, it makes sense that we look at ways to work together with customers, service providers and producers to understand the needs of the market.”

Shane Walden, ANL managing director, said alternative energies are integral to reducing carbon emissions throughout the supply chain. He said, “green methanol presents another excellent opportunity for the shipping industry to decarbonise and we are supportive of the robust exploration of a bunkering hub such as this,” he said.

Melissa Horne, Minister for ports and freight, said the Victorian Commercial Ports Strategy

Ben Serong, Stolthaven Terminals general manager, said this is one of many projects the company supports to enable the transition to greener energy alternatives. “The scope of activities involved under this MoU will evolve as the collaboration progresses and the parties develop a clearer understanding of how our respective expertise can be combined on this potential project,” he said.

ABEL Energy CEO, Michael van Baarle, also welcomed the MoU, stating, “ABEL Energy’s first Australian green hydrogen and methanol project will be built at the port of Bell Bay, using Tasmania’s renewable hydro and wind-based power supply.”



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COFFEE BEAN SHIPMENT CONCEALS 120 KILOGRAMS OF COCAINE

On Tuesday 25th April, the Australian Border Force officers seized 120 kg of cocaine at the Sydney Container Examination Facility. The ABF Officers inspected the container as part of their targeted operation, concentrating on border controlled drugs and shipping containers arriving from central and South America.

Upon inspection, the container seal was found to be damaged, prompting an x-ray to be done which revealed further anomalies. The contents of the container included three black duffel bags wrapped in plastic among hessian sacks filled with coffee beans. The duffel bags concealed the cocaine which was estimated to be worth approximately \$48 million.

Justin Bathurst, ABF Commander, said the ABF is committed to protecting Australia's borders and international ports. "Our goal is to protect our community by ensuring illegal and dangerous drugs do not make their way to our streets...In this instance, ABF has been able to prevent approximately 600,000 drug deals. ABF's technical expertise and sophisticated technology means that we will find the drugs, regardless of the method of concealment these criminals use."

The ABF is urging anyone with information about the importation to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or report it online via Crime Stoppers online or Border Watch. The information can be provided anonymously.

Williams, A. (2023). 120KG COCAINE HAUL AT PORT BOTANY. Retrieved from <https://www.thedcn.com.au/news/containers-and-container-shipment/120kg-cocaine-haul-at-port-botany-container-facility/> on 27th April, 2023.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

LACHLAN BURKE COURIER DRIVER TOMAX TRANSPORT QLD



What do you do at Tomax?

I am a Delivery Driver within the Tomax Queensland team.

What are your hobbies/interests?

I like to play my guitar, volunteer at a speedway, drive my classic car and I love wrestling (both watching it and doing it).

If you could meet any celebrity alive or dead, who would it be?

I would love to spend a day with The Undertaker from WWE.

The most delicious thing you've ever eaten?

The best thing I have eaten is a meatlovers chicken schnitzel down in Tasmania.

The next destination on your bucket list?

I am hoping to go to America and visit some of my mates that live there.

A life motto you live by?

"The only easy day was yesterday".



FRIDAY FUNNIES

Happy Friday! We hope these jokes put a big smile on your face!

How do you make a pirate furious?

Take away the “p”.

Why do cows have hooves instead of feet?

Because they lactose.

What do you get when you cross a snake and a pie?

A python.

Why did the grape go out with a prune?

Because it couldn't get a date.

Why don't ghosts like rain?

Because it dampens their spirits.

How do you catch a squirrel?

Climb up a tree and act like a nut.

Why did the scarecrow go to University?

To get a degree in strawtistics.

Why don't skeletons fight each other?

They don't have the guts.

Why did the frog call his insurance company?

He had a jump in his car.

What do you call a fish wearing a bow-tie?

Sofishticated!

What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary?

A thesaurus!

I used to play piano by ear.

Now I use my hands.

I'm reading a book about the history of glue.

I just can't seem to put it down.

Why do ghosts go to bars?

For the boos.

I have a photographic memory,
but I always forget to develop it.

