#### Issue 48 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

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#### TOMAX NEWS

# MARKET SUMMARY

• Queues at the major US port of Los Angeles/Long Beach have hit a record high this week with twice as many vessels at anchor as can be serviced at any one time by the multitude of terminals. Delays to cargo both inbound to and outbound from the USA are expected to worsen and continue for many months to come.

• The container vessel MV Thorstar is currently at anchor in Sydney waiting for repairs to be carried out in order to meet with requirements set down by the AMSA before the vessel can proceed to Port Botany for unloading. Safety concerns were identified by the AMSA upon inspection of the vessel and a delay of up to 3-4 weeks could be encountered before importers will receive containers laden on board.

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• Industrial action is set to impact receival and delivery operations at terminals around the country over the coming weeks as unions and terminals struggle to come to an agreement.

• General airfreight services from China to Australia remain severely limited as the number of flights has been cut heavily over the last few months. Direct flights into Melbourne especially have been affected, and delivery times for cargo coming in via Sydney for transport down to Melbourne have been up to 5-6 days due to backlogs and terminal delays.

### LATEST NEWS

### DP WORLD OPERATIONS RESUME AFTER COVID-19 CASE

P World Australia's Port Botany terminal is back up and running after shutting down on Wednesday after an employee returned a positive COVID-19 test. According to DP World, the employee at Port Botany terminal recently attended work while testing positive for COVID-19, causing operations to cease from Wednesday.

Although some time was lost yesterday as a result of the employee's positive COVID test, operations have resumed as normal, according to C.E.O. of DP World Australia, Andrew Adam.

Andrew said, "I'm pleased to say we've been able to resume road operations and we're continuing to work the vessels. There have been some disruptions to services, but we're back on track and we expect this to continue going forward."

A South Eastern Sydney Local Health Districted spokesperson advised that the local public health unit (PHU) was notified of the DP World Port Botany COVID-19 case on Wednesday 15th September. "The situation in any venue where exposure to COVID-19 may have occurred is carefully assessed and monitored by the PHU and prevention measures implemented according to risk", the spokesperson said.

Since then, investigations were conducted by the district's public health unit (PHU) to assess the COVID-19 risk, with close contacts of the worker being identified and told to isolate for 14 days since their exposure.

Other staff are able to work provided they are not experiencing symptoms of COVID-19. Overall, 99 employees and contractors were deemed either close or casual contacts with 36 being close contacts and 63 being casual. The 63 casual contacts are required to selfisolate until they present with a negative COVID result with 39 of these contacts already returning to work after being tested negative. However, the 36 close contacts are required to self-isolate for 14 days.

Meanwhile, appropriate thorough site cleaning was performed.

Ackerman, I. (2021). DP World Botany Operations resume after COVID case. Retrieved from https://www.thedcn.com.au/news/containers-and-container-shipping/dp-world-botany-up-and-running-after-covid-case/ on 17th September, 2021.



#### TOMAX TRANSPORT PTY LTD — UPDATE ON OPERATIONS

The Tomax Transport courier and small package delivery service has now been in operation for more than two years. Initially starting operations in July 2019 in response to service requests from several clients, the Tomax Transport team are now servicing a raft of clients with over a thousand deliveries per week. Over the last few years our service regions and capacity have expanded heavily, now stretching from Adelaide in South Australia through to the Sunshine Coast in Queensland, and everything in between.

The delivery fleet has now expanded to include 23 courier vans for deliveries and a 14 pallet tautliner for interstate operations. The team operate out of 3 depots around the country, with two located in Victoria (Hoppers Crossing and Dandenong), and one in the Brisbane suburb of Yatala.

Our delivery services can cater for all types of cargo, especially due to the fact that the majority of our fleet are Extra Long Wheelbase (ELWB) vans capable of carrying lengths up to 4.5 metres internally, and longer on rooftop cargo racks. The Tomax operating system allows for instantaneous PODs and online tracking of jobs so that you can stay informed about your deliveries at all times.

For more information on the services provided by the Tomax Transport team please contact us on 1300 186 629 (1300 1 TOMAX) to chat to one of our friendly staff.





#### TACKLING THE SAFETY OF TRANSPORTING DANGEROUS GOODS

ontainer ship fires and explosions in port storage facilities continue to take place as a result of poorly packed and misdeclared hazardous materials as they move through the global supply chain, according to International Cargo Handling Co-ordination Association (ICHCA).

The independent, not-for-profit organisation has signed a memorandum of understanding with the International Vessel Operators Dangerous Goods Association (IVODGA), to disseminate guidance on the correct safety procedures that need to be employed.

The collaboration of these two expert bodies will be crucial in developing visibly defined guidelines to best practice based on years of practical experience in handling dangerous goods. They will work closely on joint projects to improve standards across numerous common safety issues affecting the transport of dangerous goods.

CEO of ICHCA International, Richard Steele, said, "the extraordinary disaster in Beirut last August was an all too unwelcome wake-up call to everyone involved in the transport, storage and distribution of dangerous materials. However, similar incidents, smaller in proportion, yet damaging to life and limb as well as property happen across the supply chain on a frequent basis. The mutual cooperation of IVODGA and ICHCA will be aimed at the universal understanding and application of measures for the safe handling and storage of a range of goods with potential to cause explosions, fires and noxious gas emissions etc."

Uffe V. Ernst Frederiksen from Maersk and vice chair of IVODGA said, "The mutual goals and the shared respect of our two organisations will quickly result in a positive contribution to a clear and efficient communication between not just our respective members but crucially across all stakeholders in the supply chain whose interests touch any and all hazardous materials".

Wallace, P. (2021). Joint initiative to tackle safety of dangerous goods transport. Retrieved from https://www.thedcn.com.au/news/containers-and-container-shipping/joint-initiative-to-tackle-safety-of-dangerous-goods-transport/ on 15th September, 2021.

# STAFF SPOTLIGHT

#### MEET EDMOND KONG

CUSTOMS COMPILER TOMAX LOGISTICS AUSTRALIA

#### What do you do at Tomax?

I work in the Customs department ensuring shipments get cleared with Customs and Quarantine.

What are your interests and hobbies? Formula 1, NBA and Tech.

First destination you'd visit once borders reopen? Japan!

If you could have a superpower, what would it be and why?

Teleportation - love holidays but hate the long flights.

Your greatest inspiration/role model? Parents, for all their sacrifices .

One thing that can instantly brighten your day? Daughter's cackle. (Edmond with baby Nora featured on right!)

**Any rational/irrational fears?** Drowning.



# SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

See if you can spot the following 5 differences between each of the two photos below:



# FRIDAY FUNNIES

If I keep stress-eating at this level, the buttons on my shirt will start socially distancing from each other.

After years of wanting to thoroughly clean my house but lacking the time, this week I discovered that wasn't the reason.



My mom always told me I wouldn't accomplish anything by lying in bed all day. But look at me now, ma! I'm saving the world! What did the barista call her face mask? A coughy filter.

Day 121 at home and the dog is looking at me like, "see? This is why I chew the furniture!"

Quarantine has really put a damper on comedy. For months nobody has walked into a bar.

Yeah, I have plans tonight. I'll probably hit the living room around 8 or 9.

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