

Notice to Clients No. 13 of 2005

Update as of 0900 this morning for our container terminals.

Further to our last advice, Patrick IT and 1-Stop have worked throughout the weekend with Customs to increase the number of containers available for delivery today. Whilst we have achieved some success, our overall situation has not improved to the extent we had hoped.

As a result we commenced under bond transfer of import containers from Port Botany terminal to alternative sites yesterday and we have commenced receiving exports for East Swanson Dock off site this morning.

We will be holding urgent discussions with Customs this morning to determine what more can be done to improve our situation. Meanwhile we are investigating further movements of imports from East Swanson and Port Botany to alternative sites to provide stacking area for vessels this week. Notwithstanding these measures, vessel schedule is likely to be adversely affected commencing Tuesday at East Swanson Dock and Wednesday at Port Botany. Brisbane and Fremantle should work normally over the next few days.

There are significant volumes of released import containers available for immediate delivery:

Fremantle	800
Melbourne	1,600
Sydney	1,800
Brisbane	500

We are urging importers and transport companies to take immediate delivery of released import containers. We will appreciate in advance the Lines' positive assistance in this regard.

Patrick is very disappointed at the distinct lack of industry support and take-up of the facilities provided by Patrick on the weekend for delivery of imports via the Vehicle Booking System (VBS) between 0500 and 2200 on Sunday only 2 containers were delivered ex Port Botany and 5 containers were delivered ex East Swanson Dock. In the present circumstances we deem this to be a completely inappropriate response by the Consignees/Importers and their service providers (transport companies), where is their commitment to helping provide a positive resolution to this problem? Yet again Patrick has borne the expense of idle labour and terminal equipment.

We will keep you advised of developments with Customs today.

Best regards,

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