



NSW ROAD TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION INC.
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TO: Container Section
FROM: Hugh McMaster, Government and Commercial Services Manager
DATE: 21 November 2003
REF: hm729/03
SUBJECT: PATRICK UPDATE

The following is a summary of the state of play at Patrick as conveyed by David Phillips at a meeting held at Shipping Australia Ltd this morning:

- The MUA rejected Skilled Engineering's latest offer to return to work. Skilled Engineering had offered the three workers made redundant casual work. This was rejected by the MUA. Patrick was unsure where the dispute will go from here;
- R&D continues to operate at close to full capacity;
- 22 straddles are available for use. The number available at any one time rises and falls and continues to affect overall capacity;
- Storage has already been extended for vessels that are available. The position on storage will continue to evolve having regard to the situation.

Shipping line representatives present (ie Zim/Globestar, Maersk, Columbus, OOCL and P&O Nedlloyd) advised:

- Delays were being experienced due to delays at Port Botany. This is proving costly. (One line claimed a flow on cost of \$12 million due to the loss of a voyage);
- There will be a significant build up in vessels over the next few days;

Incorporated in NSW □ Established in 1890

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- They would consider requests for flexibility regarding detention charges. Any request for such an extension ***must come from the importer and must be in writing on company letterhead***, not the carrier. See **attached** letter for distribution to your clients;
- Clients of carriers can also approach shipping lines with requests to send containers to another depot if their normal depot is full.

P&O Ports advised they were examining options to take vessels destined for Patrick.

NSWRTA will keep you informed on developments.

Regards,

(signed by) Hugh McMaster

Hugh McMaster