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Direct Shipping Route

AN international shipping consortium will next month start South Australia's first direct container shipping service to North America.

The VSA consortium yesterday confirmed a weekly service from May, allowing SA exporters and importers to bypass the port of Melbourne.

Flinders Ports SA, which 18 months ago took ownership of seven SA ports, said the successes of SA companies such as Holden, Mitsubishi, Southcorp and the Hardy Wine Company had helped push Adelaide's container volumes to the level necessary to attract new shipping services.