

MEDIA RELEASE

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Record Year of Trade Activity through South Australian Ports

Flinders Ports today announced a 12.5% increase in cargo tonnage for the 2001/02 financial year, setting a new annual record throughput of 16.7 million tonnes.

Container trade was up 8.7% (Full Containers), setting a new record; grain export, totalling 6.5 million tonnes, were 30% up on the previous record; and limestone and cement volumes were the highest on record.

Results indicate growth levels in some export trades that are running above state and national GDP, highlighting the growing strength of South Australian industry.

"Results from the past financial year indicate a strengthening of South Australia's trading performance," said Flinders Ports CEO, Vincent Tremaine.

"The challenge for Flinders Ports is to ensure that our service capacity and infrastructure are maintained and developed in line with this continuing growth."

"To this end, the release of the Outer Harbor Concept Plan, timed to coincide with the State Government announcement of support for the development of a deep-sea grain berth at Outer Harbor, will serve to guide future development at the Port of Adelaide," he said.

"Of paramount importance is the deepening of the Outer Harbor channel to meet the needs of the larger container vessels now operating on the Australian coast and to provide for the trend toward larger vessels in bulk trades including grain."

"In addition, we have a committed upgrade program in the key grain ports of Port Giles and Wallaroo and continue to look for opportunities in our other regional ports," he said.

"Whilst we approach the near future with some caution, due to the possible impacts of drought conditions on successive financial years, Flinders Ports could not have wished for a better result in its first year of operation. The signs for South Australia are very positive. We look forward to expanding our role in providing port services and infrastructure to ensure the momentum continues."

Flinders Ports commenced operations in November 2001 after it was announced as the successful bidder following the State Government's decision to privatise the former South Australian Ports Corporation. In addition to the acquisition of the State's port infrastructure, Flinders Ports also acquired a 99-year land lease and port operating license for the Port of Adelaide and the six regional ports of Port Lincoln, Port Pirie, Port Giles, Klein Point, Thevenard and Wallaroo.

Key Results Summary**All Cargo**

Total Throughput tonnage (All Ports) was 16,676,000 tonnes, an increase of 12.5% from the previous year's record.

8.7% increase in containerised trade (TEU*) to 108,858 TEU (Full Containers)

Bulk/Break Bulk Cargo**

Grain Exports totalled 6,504,724 tonnes, surpassing the previous financial year's record of just over 5 million tonnes

Wheat Exports totalled 4,043,992 tonnes

Wheat Exports by Port	% Increase on previous Fin. Yr.
Port of Adelaide	55% ↑
Port Giles	24.2% ↑
Port Lincoln	43.7% ↑
Wallaroo	29.8% ↑

Barley Exports totalled 1,821,413 tonnes

Barley Exports by Port	% Increase on previous Fin. Yr.
Port Giles	42.9% ↑
Port Lincoln	36.5% ↑
Port Pirie	101.2% ↑
Wallaroo	68.4% ↑

Exports of Oilseeds, Peas and Beans increased from the previous financial year

Motor Vehicle Exports up 11.2% to 79,990 tonnes, 50,618 units

Livestock Exports up 103.8% to 69,090 tonnes, 1,322,468 head

Intrastate trade of Limestone (Adelaide Brighton Ltd) increased by 21% to 3,508,884 tonnes

Cement/Cement Clinker (Adelaide Brighton Ltd) exports increased by 6% to 928,769

Gypsum exports increased by 8% to 1,353,271

Increase in export of non-ferrous metals (Pasminco) up 43.8% to 130,978

Containerised cargo

Total Containerised Exports up 9.4% to 69,760 TEU

Total Containerised Imports up 7.4% to 39,098 TEU

Wine exports constituted 23.4% of total containerised export trade

Wine exports increased by 6.6% to 16,314 TEU

Increased exports of Chemicals/Acids, Food Preparations, Miscellaneous manufactured articles, Paper Products and Vegetables, Legumes and Oilseeds

Increased imports of Fruit, Beverages, Food Preparations, Household Appliances and Timber

*TEU = Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit. This is the general term used for a 20ft container.

**Break bulk = General cargoes carried in a ship which are shown on separate Bills of Lading

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