

MEDIA RELEASE

ALC Applauds Port Botany Rail Capacity Boost

The <u>Australian Logistics Council</u> (ALC) has welcomed today's announcement by NSW Ports that it will invest up to \$120 million over the next four years as the first phase of a major effort to enhance on-dock rail infrastructure capacity at Port Botany.

The initial works will commence at the Patrick facility in 2019, but will eventually include all three stevedoring terminals at Port Botany.

"Moving more freight via rail will be essential if Australia is to successfully meet its growing freight task and address road congestion around key port freight facilities," said ALC Interim CEO, Lachlan Benson.

"Today's announcement from NSW Ports should be welcomed by exporters and importers and their supply chain delivery partners alike, as this will allow them to get their goods to market more efficiently."

"The cost savings and efficiencies that will be unlocked by greater on-dock rail capacity will flow right through the supply chain, benefiting both producers and consumers."

"ALC has been a consistent advocate for greater investment in port rail capacity, and was especially pleased by the Federal Government's <u>decision</u> to invest \$400 million to duplicate the freight rail line at Port Botany and construct a passing loop at Cabramatta."

"Today's announcement further builds on that investment, and will be a major boost for supply chain efficiency by ensuring that Port Botany is able to cater for the growth in key metropolitan intermodal facilities in Sydney, including the Enfield Intermodal Logistics Centre, the Cooks River Intermodal Terminal and the Moorebank Intermodal Terminal, which is due to come online in 2019."

"These significant investments in port rail capacity, coupled with further work by industry and Government to help increase rail window capacity at Port Botany, will help to ensure the NSW Government is able to meet its target of moving 28 per cent of freight at Port Botany by rail by 2021."

"ALC welcomes today's announcement as one that will have a positive effect on national supply chain efficiency and safety in the years ahead, and will help deliver on key industry priorities being identified as work continues on developing the National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy."

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