



## **MINISTER FOR INDUSTRY AND ENTERPRISE**

### **MEDIA STATEMENT**

Attention: News Editor/Chief of Staff

24/07/07

#### **Lots of action at shipbuilding precinct.**

The Australian Marine Complex – the country’s premiere shipbuilding precinct – has been a hive of activity this week with the opening of a new wharf, the world’s biggest dredge in operation and a meeting to discuss the growth of the local super-yacht industry.

Industry and Enterprise Minister Francis Logan, who opened the new eastern wharf extension yesterday, said the work being undertaken at the AMC further established the facility’s credentials as a world-class centre of excellence for marine, defence and resource industries.

He said the wharf extension had been driven by the increased demand for berths from private and commercial vessels at the AMC.

“The extension will double the berthing capabilities of the AMC’s Common User Facility to hold four vessels at any one time,” Mr Logan said.

“This will allow simultaneous berthing opportunities to accommodate the increased work load at the facility and make it Australia’s pre-eminent large-scale repair, maintenance and ship conversion facility.”

The new wharf will ease congestion on the heavy load out wharves and support the fabrication activities of the oil and gas and resources sectors, as well as provide an area for heavy material offloads by shipping companies.

“The extension will meet the needs of the Royal Australian Navy’s fleet maintenance programs, including the \$500 million ANZAC frigate capability upgrades, with berthings booked in a continuous schedule until 2012,” Mr Logan said

“The new wharf will cater for a variety of vessels undergoing maintenance, as well as the Collins Class submarines.”

As part of the State Government’s \$174 million infrastructure upgrade at the AMC, the world’s biggest and most powerful dredge, the Leonardo da Vinci, has been in operation this week.

The three-week major dredge program will create a 17.5m deep pocket in the Southern Harbour to accommodate a new floating dock.

Meanwhile, representatives of WA’s super-yacht industry met at a stakeholders forum last night to discuss the future of the industry.

Mr Logan said the State’s super-yacht industry was cruising ahead, with local companies receiving international recognition and plans for a new super-yacht cluster at the AMC.

“WA is a fabulous location for the world’s super-yacht owners to visit and the AMC is the best location to build and maintain these exclusive vessels,” he said.

“The strength of the industry is unprecedented and this will increase with the establishment of the super-yacht cluster.”

Mr Logan said Lance Cushion, chief executive officer of SuperYacht Base Australia and the new president of the International Super-yacht Society, addressed the forum.

"This is the first time a person outside North America or Europe has held the prestigious position of president of the International Super-yacht Society," Mr Logan said.

"We believe his appointment will propel Australia and WA on to the radar of the international super-yacht society."

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