



Auckland's port busier than ever

The first half of 2014 has seen records smashed at Ports of Auckland. Normally a quiet time of year, the post-Christmas period has seen record numbers of containers, cars and bulk goods.

The Container Terminal handled 59,368 containers in May 2014, beating the record set in March 2014 by nearly 5000 containers. In April, the port handled over 10,000 cars in one

week, numbers never seen before.

Port CEO Tony Gibson said that "breaking records in the first half of the year is unusual; normally the pre-Christmas period is the busiest. Solid imports plus a lift in exports have given us a real boost."

Productivity is up thanks to the port's restructuring started in 2011, so the port has been able to handle the extra

freight. "There have been challenges," said Mr Gibson, "but the team has met them."

With Auckland growing fast, the port is gearing up. A new tug is on the way and six new 'straddle carriers' too. It's likely a new crane will be ordered later this year.

The Container Terminal is expanding, with a hectare of new paving this year and a 50m wharf extension due to begin later this year.

To reduce pressure on roads, the port has also upped its use of rail and its Wiri Inland Port. Rail use is up over 50% this year.

Women take on a male stronghold

Ports have historically been dominated by men, because of the physical nature of stevedoring. However, over the past year, Auckland's Port has been bringing down the barriers to make stevedoring more accessible to women.

Traditionally, a stevedore had to work as a lasher before moving on to other roles. Lashers use heavy metal bars (weighing from 18 – 30kgs) to secure containers on ships. This made it difficult for women to enter the field and unintentionally excluded half the

population, who might be excellent crane or straddle drivers. Certainly not the way to get the best out of your business.

"It's all about changing your mind-set," says Diane Edwards, General Manager People and Processes. "Through work redesign and better recruitment and training practices we've removed barriers to entry and widened our talent pool."

The port now has 16 women working as straddle or crane drivers, including Johanna Hofmann, (pictured) the world's youngest woman portainer crane operator.



ArtBoxNZ journeys on

The ArtBox that began its journey from Auckland in February with a cargo of Coromandel Mussels destined for New York has since travelled on. It made its way to Dubai carrying a cargo of military equipment and is currently heading to Casablanca, Morocco.

The box is due to arrive in Casablanca next week with its sweet cargo of chocolates.

Where to next? Follow the ArtBox on Twitter – #ArtBoxNZ or on Ports of Auckland's Facebook page where we will post updates and images as they come through.

Rapport in your email

A recent survey showed that most Aucklanders would prefer to have Rapport emailed to them. We've taken this feedback on board and from the next issue in September, Rapport becomes an e-newsletter.

If you'd like to continue receiving news from us, please email rapport@poal.co.nz. Rapport will continue to be available on our website – www.poal.co.nz.

In brief

Supporting Excellence in Exporting

Ports of Auckland is sponsoring the "Excellence in Exporting" category in the upcoming Westpac Auckland Business Awards for the Central, North and South regions,

The Port has been involved with the prestigious awards programme in the Central Auckland area since its launch in 2011 and is pleased to be able to support the North and South regions this year.

Recognising excellence in business, the Awards celebrate the great value businesses bring to Auckland City, while highlighting true local business successes and providing a high benchmark to businesses.

The Awards are open to any company no matter how large or small. Category winners will be automatically entered to compete in the Auckland regional awards.

The process is simple and businesses can get access to a free Business Facilitator from Advantage Business to help prepare their entry. Business Facilitators offer an outside perspective and help present a Business Awards entry in a way that best reflects the business' strengths.

Visit www.chamber.co.nz for more information on the awards.

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Learn more about the Port

Ever wondered about the port and jobs port people do? Why not head to our YouTube channel – www.youtube.com/portsofauckland – to watch short videos about the people that run the port.

Public Feedback Hotline

Being a city port is a huge responsibility, why not tell us how we're doing? To share your feedback with us, please contact our 24 hour public feedback hotline: +64 9 348 5274 or email feedback@poal.co.nz

Send your comments on Rapport to rapport@poal.co.nz.

For more information about Ports of Auckland, visit www.poal.co.nz, email info@poal.co.nz or phone 09 348 5200.