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## Shipping Australia supportive of development of Webb Dock in Melbourne

“The members of Shipping Australia are urging that the Victorian Government to accelerate the development of a new container terminal at Webb Dock” Llew Russell, the Chief Executive Officer of SAL said today.

“SAL has been a strong advocate of the Victorian Government bringing forward this development because it is timely to prepare now for the recovery of container throughput which is already showing signs of an upturn” he said.

Mr Russell pointed out that the development of a new container terminal at Webb Dock will provide the potential for the increased capacity being dedicated to a third stevedore similar to the new berths under construction in Brisbane and Sydney which will be operated by Hutchinson Port Holdings.

“Shipping Australia continues to support the introduction of a third major container stevedore where it is commercially viable to do so and where it would not have a negative impact on future investment” Mr Russell said.

“It is important to ensure that the sea-land interface in Melbourne was up to the task of coping with the forecast growth in container throughput.

“This involves planning at the earliest possible stage for the required supporting infrastructure as well as information technology systems that can generate such increased productivity and transparency.

“The new PortBIS systems under trial by Tradegate is one such port based data community system that will help to achieve that objective” he said.

**Editor's note**

For more information Llew Russell on 02 9266 9903 or 0414 958 247.

Shipping Australia is a peak industry association representing the shipping industry. Its 39 member shipping lines and shipping agents would be involved with 80 per cent of Australia's container trade, car trade and cruising industry as well as over 50 per cent of the break bulk and bulk trades.