

Suite 2, Level 1, 101 Sussex Street, Sydney NSW 2000 PO Box Q388 QVB PO, Sydney NSW 1230

> Tel: (02) 9266 9900 Fax: (02) 9279 1471

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17 July 2012

Michael Crandon MP Chairman Finance and Administration Committee Parliament House George Street BRISBANE, OLD, 4000 RECEIVED

Finance and Administration Committee

Dear Mr Crandon

Inquiry into operation of Queensland's Workers' Compensation Scheme

We appreciate you seeking the views of Shipping Australia Ltd on the Inquiry into operation of Queensland's Workers' Compensation Scheme. We appreciate the Government conducting this inquiry to see whether the scheme is meeting the objectives of the Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation Act 2003 and whether the scheme provides benefits for workers who sustain injury in their employment, for dependants if a worker's injury results in the worker's death, for persons other than workers and for other benefits, and if it has in fact encouraged improved health and safety performance by employers.

Shipping Australia Ltd (SAL) is a peak shipowner association with 36 member lines and shipping agents (list attached) and with 47 corporate associate members which generally provide services to the maritime industry in Australia. Our membership is involved with over 70% of Australia's international container trade and car trade as well as over 60% of our break bulk and bulk trade.

We will limit our comments to those issues that directly affect our members.

We are not aware of the claims records to ascertain whether the reforms implemented in 2010 have reduced the number and cost of claims, which were quite significant prior to the reforms in 2007-2008.

SAL members wholeheartedly support any scheme that has national uniformity and sincerely hopes that the Queensland scheme can mirror the arrangements in the Commonwealth and other jurisdictions.

In this context we question whether there is consistency in Australian State/Territory legislation with respect to injury to a worker on the way to/from a place of work.

34 Injury while at or after worker attends place of employment

(1) An injury to a worker is taken to arise out of, or in the course of, the worker's employment if the event happens on a day on which the worker has attended at the place of employment as required under the terms of the worker's employment—

35 Other circumstances

- (1) An injury to a worker is also taken to arise out of, or in the course of, the worker's employment if the event happens while the worker—
- (a) is on a journey between the worker's home and place of employment; or.....

We also believe that the minimum number of employees (currently 2,000) to be eligible for self-insurance is excessive and this should be reduced to a more reasonable figure to enable increased participation, which may be more economical.

71 Issue or renewal of licence to a single employer

- (1) The Authority may issue or renew a licence to be a self-insurer to a single employer only if satisfied that—
- (a) the number of full-time workers employed in Queensland by the employer is at least 2000; and

72 Issue or renewal of licence to a group employer

- (1) The Authority may issue or renew a licence to be a self-insurer to a group employer only if satisfied that—
 - the applicant is a group employer; and
 - the combined number of full-time workers employed in Queensland by all members of the group is at least 2000; and

Yours sincerely

Llew Russell, AM Chief Executive Officer



SHIPPING AUSTRALIA LIMITED

MEMBERS – July 2012

APL Lines (Australia)

Asiaworld Shipping Services Pty Ltd

Austral Asia Line Pte Ltd

CMA CGM

Evergreen Marine Australia Pty Ltd

Five Star Shipping & Agency Co Pty Ltd

Goodman Fielder

Gulf Agency Company (Australia) Pty Ltd

Hamburg Sud Australia Pty Ltd

Hapag-Lloyd (Australia) Pty Ltd

Hetherington Kingsbury Shipping Agency

Hyundai Merchant Marine

Inchcape Shipping Services

"K" Line (Australia) Pty Limited

LBH Australia Pty Ltd

Maersk Australia Pty Ltd

Mediterranean Shipping Company (Aust) Pty

Limited

Mitsui OSK Lines (Australia) Pty Ltd

Monson Agencies Australia Pty Ltd

NYK Line (Australia) Pty Ltd

OOCL (Australia) Pty Ltd

Pacific Asia Express Pty Ltd

PB Towage

Quay Shipping Australia Pty Ltd

RCL (Australia) Pty Ltd

Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines

Seaway Agencies Pty Ltd

Ship Agency Services Pty Ltd

Svitzer Australia Pty Ltd

The China Navigation Company Pte Ltd

Wallenius Wilhelmsen Logistics

Wilhelmsen Ships Service

Contributing members

China Shipping Container Liner Co. Ltd

Hanjin Shipping

Neptune Shipping Line Pty Ltd

Pacific Forum Line (NZ) Ltd

Corporate associate members

ACFS Port Logistics

Ajilon

Australian Amalgamated Terminals (AAT)

Australian Maritime College

Australian Shipping Consultants Pty Ltd

Brisbane Marine Pilots Pty Ltd

Chalmers Industries Pty Ltd

CLSA Australia Services Pty Ltd

Colin Biggers & Paisley

Darwin Port Corporation

DP World

Field & Associates Pty Ltd

Flinders Ports South Australia

Fremantle Ports

GHD Meyrick

Holman Fenwick Willan HFW

HWL Ebsworth

Hutchinson Ports Australia

Macpherson + Kelley Lawyers

Macquarie Telecom

Maritime Container Services

Middleton Moore Bevins

Newcastle Port Corporation

Newcastle Stevedores Pty Ltd

Norton Rose Australia

Norton White Lawyers & Notaries

Maritime Services (NSW)

OMC International Pty Ltd

Patrick Containers Peter McQueen Pty Limited Port Kembla Gateway Pty Ltd **Port Kembla Port Corporation** Port of Brisbane Pty Ltd Port of Melbourne Corporation Port Phillip Sea Pilots Pty Ltd **QR** National **QUBE Ports Pty Ltd** Royal Wolf Trading Australia Pty Ltd **Sea Transport Solutions** Strategic Marine Group Inc **Sydney Ports Corporation** Thomas Miller (Australasia) Pty Ltd Thompson Clarke Shipping Pty Ltd **Torres Industries Pty Ltd** Triton International Pty Ltd **Visy Logistics**

Viterra Ltd