



## Ministerial Media Statements



**Simon O'Brien**  
Minister for Transport; Disability Services

*Thu 22 July, 2010*

### **Berth 10 reconstruction expands container handling capacity**

#### **Portfolio: Transport**

A \$43million reconstruction of Berth 10 on Fremantle Port's North Quay has provided much-needed additional quay length for the growing container trade.

The original Berth 10, built 53 years ago, was unsuitable for container shipping.

Opening the re-built berth today, Transport Minister Simon O'Brien said as well as expanding capacity, the new infrastructure would contribute to the efficiency of Western Australia's biggest general cargo port.

"The State Government has given its strong support to Fremantle Ports in recognition of the importance of efficient port infrastructure," Mr O'Brien said.

The reconstruction is part of the \$250million Inner Harbour deepening and associated berth works - one of the biggest and most significant infrastructure projects undertaken at the port since the opening of Fremantle Harbour in 1897.

"The berth has been completed on time and within budget. More importantly, attention to safety by the contractor, Thiess Georgiou Joint Venture, ensured that there were no lost time injuries," the Minister said.

"The average size of container ships calling at Fremantle has increased by more than 85 per cent in the past 15 years.

"Retaining direct services by the bigger ships will enable our imports and exports to remain competitive, with flow on benefits to consumers.

"Bigger ships need bigger cranes to service them and this imposes heavier loads on wharf structures, hence the importance of the berth strengthening and deepening of the harbour channels."

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