

PORT KEMBLA PORT CORPORATION

An example of how the Intelligent Access Program (IAP) is helping to improve port access for transport operators and is delivering benefits for the entire supply chain.

ABOUT PORT KEMBLA

Situated in Wollongong, approximately 80 km south of Sydney, Port Kembla has become a major transport and logistics hub for goods entering and exiting NSW.

Building on its traditional trades of raw materials for steel manufacturing, coal and grain exports, Port Kembla has successfully diversified its trade to include general cargo, break bulk cargo and containers. More recently it has earned the mantle for being Australia's major port for motor vehicle imports.

According to the Port Kembla Port Corporation's Chief Executive Officer, Mr Dom Figliomeni, the port of Port Kembla currently generates over 3,860 jobs directly and indirectly and contributes \$839 million to the regional economy. Located close to the rapidly growing community of south-western Sydney, these figures are set to grow and further port expansion is underway.

'The importance of the port to regional exporters, importers and to the local economy means the Port Corporation puts a high priority on being an efficient and competitive operation,' Mr Figliomeni said.

'Over just the last year total trade through Port Kembla has grown 17.9% in tonnage terms with vessel visits up from 862 to 1,001. This level of growth is expected to continue well into the future and plans are in place to expand the port to meet the growing freight demands of our customers.'



PORT ACCESS

Port Kembla has a total of 19 berths with internal road and rail networks servicing both the Outer Harbour and Inner Harbour.

Springhill Road, which is the point of access into the Inner Harbour, is an approved Higher Mass Limits (HML) route. Springhill Road connects with Masters Road, which provides direct access to the Princes Highway, the main road linking Sydney with Wollongong.

THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMERCIAL DRIVERS

Mr Figliomeni said, 'the Port Corporation is a state owned corporation and its role involves overseeing port operations, ensuring efficient port logistics as well as managing port development and diversification.'

Port Kembla is located some distance from residential areas, allowing for 24/7 road and rail operations within and adjacent to the port precinct. 'The Port Corporation owns a significant amount of the road and rail network within the port boundaries which provides greater operational flexibility and control over planning for future growth,' Mr Figliomeni said.

Mr Figliomeni said this role, the standard of access routes and its location away from residential areas means the Port Corporation and transport operators are well positioned to take advantage of HML access.

'Initially, the local community was concerned about plans to trial the Higher Productivity Freight Vehicles (HPFV). We focussed very heavily on having community information sessions to inform and alleviate any concerns and questions. The fact that the overall design of the HPFV results in a significant reduction in vehicle movements went a long way to addressing the concerns of the community. The community are still able to express their views on our operation.'



ENVIRONMENTAL, ECONOMIC AND OPERATIONAL BENEFITS DERIVED FROM USING IAP

Transport operators gaining HML access under IAP can increase their payload by up to 12%. This is delivering benefits for all road users as well as the broader community because it means fewer truck trips for the same freight task contributing to lower fuel consumption, less environmental emissions and greater productivity for the transport and logistics sectors.

WORKING WITH TRANSPORT OPERATORS

Transport operators have previously made applications for HML access to Port Kembla's grain terminal and the Australian Amalgamated Terminal's motor vehicle imports facility located in the Inner Harbour precinct. The Port Corporation recognised the commercial and environmental benefits of allowing HML access to this area of the port. After some consideration the Port Kembla Port Corporation decided to grant HML access from Springhill Road onto Tom Thumb Road, Yampi Way, Farrer Road and Moreton Way.

HML access has been available to the Port Kembla Coal Terminal for some time. This has delivered efficiency gains through improved access for transport operators moving coal to Port Kembla along HML approved links from the NSW southern and western coalfields.

The Intelligent Access Program (IAP) was an important consideration behind the Port Kembla Port Corporation's decision to grant HML access. The IAP provided the Port Kembla Port Corporation with the required level of assurance that transport operators would comply with conditions to access approved HML routes.

The approach taken by the Port Kembla Port Corporation, working together with industry, has resulted in benefits to multiple stakeholders. The positive results for the transport operators and the local community can only benefit the region's economy by further creating opportunities for growth.

AT A GLANCE

- Trade through Port Kembla has grown 17.9%
- Port Kembla allows for 24/7 road and rail operations within and adjacent to the port precinct
- The IAP has delivered efficiency gains through improved access to Port Kembla for transport operators
- Transport operators gaining HML access under IAP can increase their payload by up to 12%



The information contained in this case study is intended to convey the experiences of the transport operator/s concerned. The benefits of IAP mentioned in this case study may not be true for all transport operators. Transport operators should consider the appropriateness of IAP to their business operations, objectives and circumstances before enrolling in IAP.