



MEDIA RELEASE

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Pacific Marine Base Bundaberg reaches important milestone

The first stage of a new port facility for Bundaberg is nearing completion, opening significant new economic opportunities for the wider Burnett region.

Pacific Tug's Pacific Marine Base Bundaberg is on track to complete Stage 1 of a project that could ultimately become a key factor in Queensland's plan to boost its renewable energy infrastructure.

The \$15 million Stage 1, assisted by \$6m in Federal Government investment and key assistance from the State Government and Bundaberg Regional Council, will deliver a cargo barge facility that will increase intrastate and Pacific Island trade.

The benefits of Pacific Marine Base Bundaberg include:

- The highest load capacity of any wharf on Australia's east coast
- Bundaberg port's largest roll-on, roll-off facility, enabling vessels access to southeast Queensland's agriculture, manufacturing and industry hubs
- A state-of-the-art design that ensures Pacific Marine Base Bundaberg is flood-tolerant
- Location south of Queensland's cyclone zone and Great Barrier Reef Marine Park
- The creation of 60 construction jobs during Stage 1 and the potential to create a further 100 jobs during Stage 2

"We're reaching a crucial point in construction on Pacific Marine Base Bundaberg and we'll soon have a facility that will create significant economic opportunities for the region," Pacific Tug's CEO Chris Peters said.

"We've been planning this facility for more than five years, working with Gladstone Ports Corporation while receiving support from all levels of government who understand the benefits that this project can unlock.

"This is only Stage 1 of a facility that can ultimately expand and play a key role in opening up the state's port capacity to assist in some landmark projects including the development of Queensland renewable energy solutions."

Mr Peters said construction would soon be completed on Stage 1, which has been designed using a method known as 'straight web sheet pile' in circular cell formation rather than traditional piling methods due to its extreme loading capacity. This creates long-term advantages for the facility. Two large cranes have been in place, ensuring the construction schedule remains on track.

"The use of cells means that construction is more intense but takes far less time to complete and it then becomes easily scalable," he said.

"It ensures that Pacific Marine Base will have the largest load capacity of any port along Australia's east coast."

The Pacific Tug Group of companies is wholly family-owned and based in Queensland. The company was granted a 50-year lease at the Port of Bundaberg by Gladstone Ports Corporation.

"The length of this lease ensures that we can play a role in expansion, increasing Queensland's port capacity and supporting renewable energy plans," Mr Peters said.

"Bundaberg port has notable advantages when added into a wider mix including Brisbane and Gladstone, which both play critical roles in the state's freight needs."

Stage 2 of Pacific Marine Base Bundaberg would lengthen the wharf creating a break bulk shipping terminal, with a large laydown area and access to major roads. Queensland Government approval has been provided for an Over Size Over Mass freight path from the port to the Bruce Highway.

Pacific Tug is already in discussions with government and private investors in partnering in Stage 2.

"Stage 2 of Pacific Marine Base Bundaberg is shovel-ready and its benefits for the region and beyond are significant," Mr Peters said.

"This would include the creation of a further 100 jobs in the construction phase."