

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**WRITTEN QUESTION**

Ms J Carney

to Chief Minister

Territory Development - Shipping Services and Operators

1. What new customers and shipping operators did the Office of Territory Development work with and encourage to our East Arm port during 2004-05?
2. What new customers and shipping operators is the Office of Territory Development currently working with to encourage to our East Arm port during 2005-06?
3. When is the next Hai Win service due from China?

ANSWER

1.

The Department of the Chief Minister continues to work with the Darwin Port Corporation and FreightLink to directly promote Darwin as an alternative trade route for Australia. Promotional work undertaken in 2005 included participation in Port Conferences held in Manila, Surabaya and Bangkok as well as several direct marketing visits targeting regional Asian Shipping lines, global logistics service providers and major importers and exporters.

A number of shipping line operators have demonstrated an interest in commencing a shipping service trading between Surabaya and Darwin. Commercial-in-confidence negotiations are proceeding between various private sector players (including regional shipping lines) about the establishment of such a service during 2006. Paper products, plastics, glassware and automotive manufacturing parts are being targeted for imports and for exports, the focus being on base metals, wheat, fodder and food products.

A December 2005 visit to mining operations located on the Indonesian Islands of Kalimantan, Sulawesi and Sumbawa, indicated that there is an opportunity for Darwin based mining suppliers and automotive parts suppliers to open up new exports markets. This opportunity has been progressed by the recent Indonesian Mining and Procurement Forum held in Darwin in March 2006.

2. We continue to work with all potential import/export clients and more. The Territory Government's Global Freight Connect Conference held at the end of October 2005 attracted a formidable list of key executives representing the Chemical, Retail, Shipping Line, Freight Forwarding and Chamber of Commerce personnel. One outcome from this conference has been the successful negotiations to ship mining chemical products through the port of Darwin.
3. In regards to Hai Win Service from Shanghai to Darwin in January 2006, the company announced that the trial phase was over and that Hai Win had established a monthly service. The next service is due in late April 2006.