

# Paul McLeay MP

Minister for Ports and Waterways  
Minister for the Illawarra



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M E D I A   R E L E A S E

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## **Port Kembla busy with record shipping movements**

A record month for ship movements at the port of Port Kembla is a sign of positive things to come, Ports and Waterways Minister Paul McLeay said today.

“There were 178 ship movements for the month of December 2009. This is great news for Port Kembla which also achieved a record week in January 2010, when there were 64 shipping movements,” Mr McLeay.

The Minister was commenting whilst touring Port Kembla where he inspected port facilities and met with port stakeholders.

“In general terms the outlook for Port Kembla for 2010 is positive, with expectations of an overall improvement in international trade consistent with the recovery in the Australian economy and the gradual improvement in international trade,” Mr McLeay said.

To the end of December 2009, the port had 513 vessel visits which is 90 more vessels than same period last year.

“All indicators show that the outcome of this financial year will be stronger than last (financial) year.”

Mr McLeay said the diversification of trade as a result of the development of the Inner Harbour has contributed significantly to this result.

“One of the major benefits of the recent expansions at Port Kembla has not only been the increased number of vessels calling at the port but the associated diversity in trade away from the long traditional bulk trades of coal, grain and steel products”.

Port Kembla Port Corporation CEO Dom Figliomeni said that while the port had not been immune from the financial conditions of last year, the fundamentals of the port’s core business strategy continue to be strong.

“This time last year the Port was feeling the effects of the Global Financial Crisis and port Stakeholders were forecasting a significant reduction of trade,” Mr Figliomeni said.

“However, recent feedback from all port stakeholders indicates that trade forecast for this financial year will show an improvement over the same period last year”.

As at 30 December 2009, trade through the port was 15.66 million revenue tonnes which is up on the 13.41 (million revenue) for the same period last year.

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