



Message from the CEO

A belated happy new year to all; I hope you've had a great start to 2025.

This year, we are presented with opportunities to contribute and collaborate.

For example, the Victorian Government's Economic Growth Statement sets the stage for an environment that allows trade and business to grow.

We have an eye on the future through our work on our Port Development Strategy, sustainability initiatives, and infrastructure planning. Likewise, global advancements in sustainability and digitalisation offer gateways to growth and success.

Yet, in a highly interconnected industry such as ours, this year also brings uncertainty in the face of persistent geopolitical challenges.

That said, on the back of an exceptionally strong 2024, I am optimistic for the freight and logistics sector in the year ahead. The knock-on effects of increasing trade volumes flow beyond our industry – it benefits communities, businesses, and the economy of Victoria and beyond.

As such, this year, I am keen to continue working with you, our port users and stakeholders, to build a strong and resilient supply chain that brings positive impact to all.

Best regards
Saul Cannon

Trade & Supply Chain Update

	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Q4 CY2024
Total Container Trade (TEU)	300,471	301,768	287,240	889,479
Total Container Trade YoY	6.70%	24.10%	10.00%	13.20%
Full Imports YoY	6.30%	22.60%	12.10%	13.30%
Full Exports YoY	12.10%	20.80%	2.80%	11.60%
Empty Containers YoY	2.20%	30.00%	14.00%	14.50%
Total Non-Container Trade YoY	3.10%	-8.80%	-3.90%	-3.20%

Container trade in the fourth quarter of Calendar Year 2024 (CY2024) has shown strong year-on-year growth compared to the same period last year.

Full container imports have been particularly strong, with furniture imports recording significant growth. Full container exports have maintained strong momentum, driven by increased container exports of wheat, hay, timber, cotton, and meat. Empty container exports have also performed well.

However, non-container trade has declined compared to the prior year period, except for dry bulk, which saw strong growth due to higher bulk wheat exports.

[Click here](#) to read more.

Port Infrastructure Update

Swanson Dock West Stage 1 Progress

The Swanson Dock West Remediation Project is a three-stage project that is currently in the first phase of works. Prior to Christmas, a major milestone was achieved in Stage 1 of works, with the completion of the final wharf deck pour.

Works in the new year will continue with a focus on the installation of new container crane rails, remediation of seaside piles, and patch repairs of the existing concrete wharf deck.

Works are anticipated to be completed by mid-2025, with an updated completion date to be provided in the coming months.



Appleton Dock Remediation Works



As part of our stewardship obligations, Port of Melbourne has commenced remediation works of timber piles at Appleton Dock. These pile works will ensure the safe operation of the wharf without any load restrictions into the future. Since December 2024, our contractor Bhagwan Marine has completed 23 pile repairs out of a total 224.

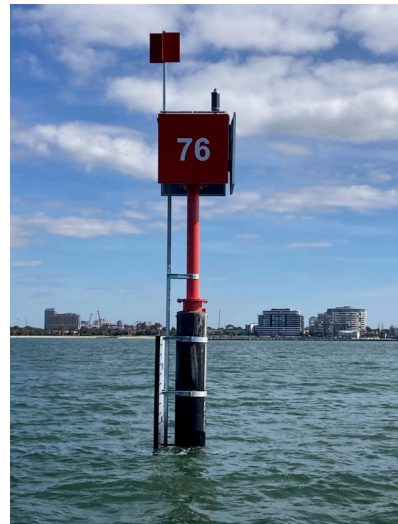
These works are expected to continue throughout 2025.

Beacon Pile Replacement Program

Port of Melbourne has 200 Aids to Navigation (AtoNs) which provide navigational assistance to vessel traffic while in port waters. Since mid-2024, 18 monopile beacons in the South and Port Melbourne Channels have been replaced, with works continuing through to April 2025.

During this period, a 50-metre clearance and minimum wake and wash have been required to ensure works can be undertaken safely.

A second stage of the program will be carried out following completion of these works, across additional locations. These works will be communicated closer to the expected start date in Q2 2025.



Webb Dock East Berth 4 Marks One Year Since Handover to VICT



In December 2023, Port of Melbourne handed over Webb Dock East (WDE) Berth 4 to our tenant, Victoria International Container Terminal (VICT), following the completion of the WDE Extension Project. The project, which restored WDE to a two-berth terminal, involved extending the wharf by 71 metres, coupled with the construction of a 30-metre transition wharf structure.

One year on, WDE Berth 4 has received more than 170 vessels, including the MSC Rikku, the largest ship to call at Berth 4. The 340-metre vessel arrived at WDE Berth 4 on 9 February 2024, boasting a maximum capacity of 8,566 TEUs.

Government and Industry Engagement

Positive Direction in Victorian Government's Economic Growth Statement

Port of Melbourne welcomes the Victorian Government's Economic Growth Statement, released in December 2024, which provides positive and clear direction for businesses and industry in the State. We look forward to working with the Victorian Government to understand and plan for regional market changes, to support our exporters through efficient infrastructure, and to facilitate the international relationships that can offer opportunities to Victorian businesses.

The Statement also contains a number of positive steps to support private investment in Victoria, as well as addressing structural issues, such as industrial land supply that can inhibit growth.

[Read more.](#)

Australian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ACCI) National Trade Survey

To mark the launch of the 2024 ACCI National Trade Survey, Port of Melbourne CEO Saul Cannon delivered the keynote address and participated in an insightful panel discussion alongside Australia's business leaders.

The survey provides a well-rounded look at Australia's trade landscape.

Read the [2024 ACCI National Trade Survey here.](#)



Tokyo Bureau of Port and Harbor Delegation



Representatives of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government visited Port of Melbourne – including SeaRoad, MIRRAT, and Victoria International Container Terminal (VICT) – to discuss port decarbonisation and green transformation, digitalisation, and operational efficiency.

Port of Melbourne welcomes the opportunity to dialogue with international ports, offering a platform to collaborate, exchange insights, and drive innovation.

Port of Melbourne Visits Southern Cotton in Whitton, NSW

Port of Melbourne's Business Development team had the opportunity to visit Southern Cotton in Whitton, southern NSW, to learn about Australia's world-class cotton and its export supply chain.

Matthew Leonard, Southern Cotton Chief Operating Officer, provided a tour of the gin and related facilities, explaining how they work with growers, merchants, and transport and logistics providers to source, process, and export the country's finest cotton to global markets.

[Read more.](#)



Port of Melbourne Industry Boat Tour



Port of Melbourne is delighted to offer the wider industry the opportunity to attend a boat tour of Australia's largest container and general cargo port on Tuesday, 4 March, departing Docklands. A portion of the ticket sales will be donated to our community partners, the Mission to Seafarers Victoria and Stella Maris Seafarer Centre Melbourne.

Places are limited – [book yours here](#).

Community Engagement

Upcoming Public Boat Tours

Port of Melbourne open day boat tours are fun, family-friendly, and the best way to see Australia's busiest port, right on the city's doorstep. We invite community members living around the port to join us at our upcoming boat tours on:

- Saturday 1st March 2025
- Saturday 22nd March 2025

For more details, [click here](#).



All ticket sales are donated to The Mission to Seafarers Victoria and Stella Maris Melbourne in support of the thousands of seafarers who spend months at sea bringing goods to us every day of the year.

[Follow us on LinkedIn](#) for more engagement and activity updates.

Your Port of Melbourne Contacts

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Part of your everyday

We support communities across southern Australia – bringing the goods we need for our daily lives, and sending our exports to the global stage.



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