



Industry Update

March 2025



Message from the CEO

As we close out the first quarter of 2025, I'm pleased to share some exciting news. You may have seen in the media that Port of Melbourne achieved the highest annual container trade volume ever recorded by any Australian container port.

In 2024, the Port saw a total of 3.396 million twenty-equivalent units (TEUs) – more than 9 per cent up from 2023 volumes.

This is a significant milestone not just for Victoria, but also for Australia, and it reflects the strength of our port users, supply chain partners, and the broader industry in keeping trade moving efficiently.

This achievement is not just about the numbers – it underscores the critical role the supply chain plays in supporting Victoria's economy. Looking ahead, Port of Melbourne remains committed to investing in infrastructure and operational improvements to ensure we continue to meet growing trade demands.

Thank you for your ongoing collaboration. I look forward to working together as we build on this momentum in the months ahead.

Best regards
Saul Cannon

Trade & Supply Chain Update

	Jan	Feb	CY2025
Total Container Trade (TEU)	289,948	262,544	552,492
Total Container Trade YoY	4.5%	-3.1%	0.8%
Full Imports YoY	2.1%	1.1%	1.6%
Full Exports YoY	7.4%	1.3%	4.2%
Empty Container Trade YoY	6.0%	-13.4%	-3.6%
Total Non-Container Trade YoY	16.3%	-1.3%	6.5%

Container trade in first two months of Calendar Year 2025 (CY2025) has shown growth against the same period last year.

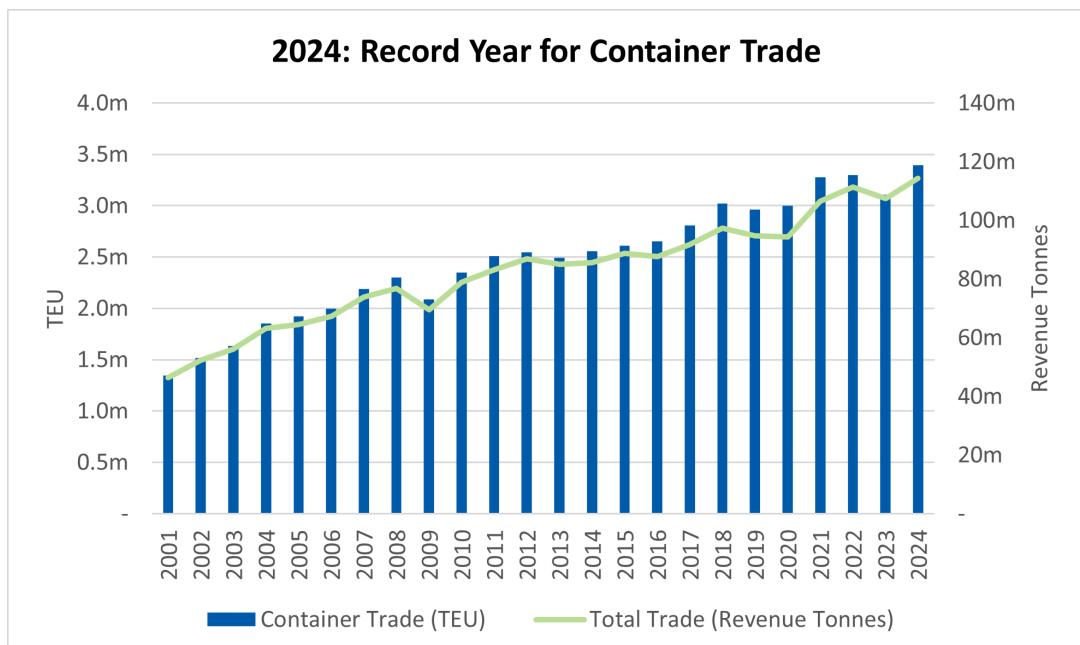
Full container trade overall has shown growth, particularly full exports has increased, with timber, meat, pulp & waste showing increases against the prior year period. Full imports showed growth against prior year and was largely driven by increases furniture and clothing. Empty container trade declined against the prior year period, particularly in February, with strong movements of empty container trade seen last year.

Non-container trade in 2025 saw an increase against the prior year period, driven by a substantial increase in motor vehicle trade, along with increases in liquid bulk and dry bulk.

[Click here](#) to read more.

Port of Melbourne Achieves Highest Container Throughput on Record

We are pleased to share that, in CY2024, Port of Melbourne achieved the highest annual container trade volume ever recorded, signifying a historic milestone for Victoria.



As Australia's largest general cargo and container port, Port of Melbourne handles more than one-third of the nation's container trade. Its strategic geographic position

allows the Port to support efficient and effective transport and logistics across southeastern Australia.

[Click here](#) to read more.

Port Infrastructure Update

Upcoming Dredging Campaign

Port of Melbourne will soon be undertaking dredging and sweeping works in and around the Northern and Southern areas of Port Phillip Bay.

Routine dredging works ensure that the declared depth at, and in the vicinity of, berths and channels in the port of Melbourne are maintained for the safe operation of shipping.

From mid-April to mid-May 2025, activity will be taking place in the following areas of the port:

- South Channel
- Maribyrnong and Yarraville
- Port Melbourne Channel
- Swanson Dock incl. Swinging Basin
- Webb Dock
- Williamstown Channel
- Yarra River North
- Yarra River South



Port users may see our contractors Boskalis Australia Pty Ltd and Polaris Marine Pty Ltd. carrying out these works.

For more information visit [Dredging | Port of Melbourne](#).

Port Wide Security – CCTV Project

We're focused on providing a safe and secure Port environment.

Port of Melbourne undertook an assessment to identify proposed CCTV pole locations in 2024. This included ensuring visibility of key traffic areas could be achieved, to better identify issues and proactively manage and respond to incidents.

Since completing inspections including non-destructive tests and site proofing, at all proposed pole locations, we are currently working towards finalising designs. Our next steps as part of the complex project will include the development of relevant documentation to progress our understanding of CCTV implementation.

Latest Developments

Expressions of Interest for 221 Whitehall Street & 2 Somerville Road

CBRE on behalf Port of Melbourne, are taking Expressions of Interest for 221 Whitehall Street & 2 Sommerville Road, Footscray.

This opportunity comprises an impressively significant and flexible combination of crushed rock & bitumen hardstand land, and modern high clearance warehousing. The offerings can be amalgamated to combine both addresses or offered on an individual basis.



Key features include:

- Hardstand land, up to 120,000sqm*
- High clearance warehousing 2,112sqm-16,389sqm
- Industrial Zone 1
- Flexible layout catering to single or multiple users
- Potential to connect the 2 sites at Somerville Rd & Whitehall St (STCA)

Available via Expressions of Interest, closing on Monday 14th April at 3pm (AEDT).

Read more [here](#).

Tenancy Customer Charter – Annual Reporting 2024

In November 2021, Port of Melbourne introduced the Tenancy Customer Charter, designed to assist tenants in negotiating leases that meet their bespoke operating needs, are commercially acceptable to both parties and are struck in accordance with our obligations to the Victorian Government.

Today, Port of Melbourne published its third Annual Performance Report for the period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024. The report includes Key Performance Indicators that Port of Melbourne reports against each calendar year, including market rent reviews, new leases and other key elements.

The Annual Performance Report also contains rental band information on property at the Port. As part of our focus on continual improvement, PoM is currently reviewing options for more frequent publication of property rental band information. This aims to better inform our current and future tenants on rents at the Port.

Read the [Tenancy Customer Charter Annual Report 2024 here](#).

West Gate Tunnel Project Update

2025 is set to be a big year for major upgrades to Melbourne's road network, with smoother, safer journeys between Melbourne's west and the port on the way with the opening of the West Gate Tunnel later this year. The project partners, the Victorian Government and Transurban, are working with Port of Melbourne to help tenants and industry stakeholders get ready to make the most of faster trips, direct access to the port, and 'no truck zones' being introduced on inner west streets when West Gate Tunnel opens.

The project includes upgrades to the West Gate Freeway – strengthening the freeway, increasing its capacity, and creating express lanes in both directions to reduce weaving and enhance safety – and fast journeys to the industrial facilities of the inner west through ramps from the freeway to Hyde Street in Spotswood.



Thanks to the new tunnel under Yarraville paired with a new elevated motorway above Footscray Road, there'll be new entries to the port, including a direct link to Coode Island.

The new and upgraded infrastructure will help trucks bypass up to 17 sets of traffic lights, save up to 13 minutes in travel time to the port, and benefit from strengthened ramps and bridges with better weight capacity.

When the Tunnel opens, 24-hour no truck zones will be introduced on: Blackshaws Road, Francis Street, Somerville Road, Buckley Street, Moore Street, and Hudsons Road. Large port-bound trucks will no longer be able to use these local streets; however, exceptions will apply to trucks with local origins and destinations for deliveries, performing construction or maintenance works, the repair of the vehicle or the sale of the vehicle.



Throughout this year, project representatives will be running briefings and events to help businesses prepare to use West Gate Tunnel and understand the tolls involved to help balance traffic across the freeway network, and fund ongoing operation. Heavy vehicles will pay a single total toll when travelling on the upgraded West Gate Freeway, new tunnels and city connections.

For more information, call 1800 105 105 or email info@wgtta.vic.gov.au. For languages other than English, call 9209 0147. You can also subscribe for updates at [West Gate Tunnel Project](#), follow [West Gate Tunnel Project](#) and [Transurban on LinkedIn](#), and head to transurban.com for the latest West Gate Tunnel toll prices and information.

Boskalis Appointed as Port of Melbourne's Dredging Contractor

Port of Melbourne is pleased to sign a 12-year maintenance dredging contract with Boskalis Australia Pty Ltd, following an extensive procurement process. Boskalis' familiarity with the Port and understanding of the unique challenges posed by South Channel and Port Phillip Heads will support Port of Melbourne in the ongoing facilitation of safe and efficient shipping.

As part of our stewardship obligations, Port of Melbourne conducts maintenance dredging of our shipping channels and berth pockets – a critical aspect of ensuring safe passage of ships visiting the Port.



Port of Melbourne Invests \$890,000 in World-First Shellfish Reef Restoration

Port of Melbourne is proud to announce its partnership with The Nature Conservancy Australia (TNC) to lead the world's first trial to remediate dredge material grounds by restoring shellfish reefs in Port Phillip Bay. Dredge material grounds are areas of seafloor set aside for placement of sand and mud which have been cleared from navigation channels.



Photo: Jarrod Boord / TNC

The trial commenced on 4 February, using a mix of recycled shell from TNC's Shuck Don't Chuck project and local limestone rock to form a new reef base on the seafloor. These reef bases will be seeded with 400,000 Australian Flat Oysters, which will continue to grow and attach to the reef base and each other. Over time, they will create a living reef, filtering water, and attracting a diversity of fish and aquatic life.

Read more [here](#).

Port of Melbourne Welcomes CMA CGM Baalbeck and BBG Singapore

Port of Melbourne was delighted to welcome, CMA CGM Baalbeck, the first LNG-powered container ship to Australia.

The 8,000 TEU dual-fuel vessel, which sailed from Southeast Asia, called Patrick Terminals at Swanson Dock East on 18 March, onward to Sydney, Adelaide and Fremantle. We congratulate ANL for this significant step towards decarbonisation, and we are dedicated to progressing work with industry to achieve cleaner, more sustainable shipping.



In the month prior, we proudly welcomed the BBG Singapore, the largest vessel to load a combination of lentils and chickpeas at Port of Melbourne.



The pulses began their journey along Australia's East coast states, where they are cultivated by expert growers, before making their way to Port of Melbourne's Appleton Dock via road and rail. We are delighted to work with Louis Dreyfus Company in exporting quality Australian produce to the world.

Government and Industry Engagement

Stakeholder Engagement on Future Port Development

Port of Melbourne is currently developing its new 2055 Port Development Strategy (2055 PDS).

Thank you to all stakeholders who have contributed to our various engagements that have informed our planning to date, including those who participated in our Port Capacity Enhancement Program (PCEP) draft Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) engagement program. To find out what we heard from stakeholders on the draft CBA click [here](#).

Our Draft 2055 PDS will be released in mid-April for stakeholder feedback. We will continue to update our webpage at [2050 Port Development Strategy | Port of](#)

Melbourne and notify stakeholders on how to be involved. However, if you would like to register early to attend a briefing on our Draft 2055 PDS, please email pds@portofmelbourne.com.

Container Transport Alliance Australia (CTAA) West Gate Tunnel Infrastructure Seminar

In early March, Port of Melbourne Executive GM of Strategy & Planning Caryn Anderson presented at the CTAA's seminar on West Gate Tunnel Infrastructure. Also present was Charles Cornish, Head of Intermodal, who participated on a panel discussion.

In the opening remarks, The Hon. Melissa Horne MP spoke about the importance of infrastructure that supports Victoria's \$36-billion freight sector, which resonates with Port of Melbourne's vision for connectivity that facilitates trade flow and supports a resilient supply chain.

Port of Melbourne looks forward to continuing to support government and industry as the West Gate Tunnel nears completion – and we congratulate the CTAA on a fruitful event.



Community Engagement

March 2025 Public Boat Tours

We were thrilled to welcome more than 720 members of the community to our public boat tours in March.

These boat tours offer the public a behind-the-scenes glimpse of Australia's largest container port, providing an insight into Victoria's freight supply chain.

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.

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



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Your Port of Melbourne Contacts

General enquiries can be directed to corporateaffairs@portofmelbourne.com, or get in touch with our team:

