



# Industry Update

September 2025



## Message from the CEO

As we enter the final quarter of 2025, I am pleased to share with you our September Industry Update, which includes developments about our Draft 2055 Port Development Strategy, Swanson Dock West Remediation Project, and a number of government highlights relating to the future of our sector.

This progress is underpinned by Victoria's growing demand for container trade, reflected in our notable FY2025 trade performance: 3.39 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEU) and approximately \$154 billion worth of trade handled. This marks the highest trade value ever recorded at Port of Melbourne. With 9,300 TEU handled per day, Port of Melbourne continues to be Australia's largest container port, moving nearly 21% more volume than any container port in the country.

That said, it's your operations, your investment, and your resilience that contribute to bringing these figures to life. These numbers represent your achievements and our shared success – and we reinforce our commitment to working with you to ensure that goods continue to move, jobs are supported, and economic activity is generated throughout Victoria.

Best regards  
Saul Cannon

## Trade & Supply Chain Update



	Jul-25	Aug-25	FYTD 26
<b>Total Container Trade (TEU)</b>	<b>290,459</b>	<b>284,746</b>	<b>575,205</b>
<b>Total Container Trade YoY</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	<b>5.3%</b>
<b>Full Imports YoY</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>5.3%</b>
<b>Full Exports YoY</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
<b>Empty Containers YoY</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>19.5%</b>	<b>10.7%</b>
<b>Total Non-Container Trade YoY</b>	<b>-7.7%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>-3.0%</b>

In the first two months of FY26, total container trade recorded year-on-year growth, driven primarily by a sharp increase in empty container movements and robust growth in full imports.

Non-container trade experienced a slight decline overall, although liquid bulk volumes showed a modest uplift.

[Click here](#) to read more.

## Latest Updates

### Submission of Penultimate Draft 2055 PDS to Ports Victoria

Port of Melbourne has engaged a wide range of stakeholders for our 2055 Port Development Strategy (2055 PDS).

Our penultimate Draft 2055 PDS has now been submitted to Ports Victoria in accordance with the Port Development Strategies Ministerial Guidelines.



Our final 2055 PDS will be published in December 2025. Prior to publication, we will formally respond to all stakeholders who made a submission, advising how feedback influenced our final 2055 PDS.

Our final Stakeholder Engagement Summary will be published at that time. In the meantime, a summary of our stakeholder engagement to date can be found [here](#).

*Should you have any questions or require further information about our 2055 PDS, please email [pds@portofmelbourne.com](mailto:pds@portofmelbourne.com) or see the [2055 PDS webpage](#).*

### Upcoming Land for Lease via Request for Proposal

Port of Melbourne will shortly be launching two Requests for Proposal to Lease for land available at the former Melbourne Market Site and at 2 Somerville Road, Footscray, in the Yarraville Precinct.

For further details please contact [leasing@portofmelbourne.com](mailto:leasing@portofmelbourne.com). Information will be published at [Leasing Opportunities - Port of Melbourne](#) once launched.

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## Port Infrastructure Update

### Swanson Dock West Remediation

Earlier this month Stage 2 works commenced at Swanson Dock West Berth 3.



The scope of works includes 22 new 100-tonne bollards which will be capable of accommodating future fleet size vessels of >290m length overall.

The expertise of up to approx. 165 personnel is anticipated to interact with the site during Stage 2 ensuring the works are delivered safely and efficiently.

### West Gate Tunnel Project Progress

The new section of the Wurundjeri Way city bypass, delivered as part of the West Gate Tunnel Project, will open on Monday 27 October – extending a key north-south route through Melbourne for smoother, quicker trips to destinations like Port Melbourne.

The new road connects Dynon Road in West Melbourne to Wurundjeri Way in the Docklands, involving a new bridge over Dudley Street.

The full benefits of the extension will be realised later this year when the West Gate Tunnel Project opens the new tunnels under Yarraville, the elevated road above Footscray Road, and the new ramps between the West Gate Freeway and Hyde Street – offering drivers improved connections to Port of Melbourne and the industrial facilities of the inner west.



Practice driving all the new and upgraded routes on offer through the project area before they open at [westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/drive](http://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/drive), where you'll find information on upcoming events in Spotswood and Yarraville to help you get ready for West Gate Tunnel.

When the project opens, new 24-7 no-truck zones are coming to six streets in the inner west. The Department of Transport and Planning is helping industry, truck operators and drivers prepare for the no-truck zones – including highlighting dedicated routes to the port via the West Gate Tunnel and Hyde Street ramps, and the no-truck zone rules and regulations. For more information, visit [transport.vic.gov.au/no-truck-zones](http://transport.vic.gov.au/no-truck-zones).

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## Government and Industry Engagement

### Victorian Freight Plan 2025–2030 and National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy and Action Plan 2025

Last month, the Victorian Government released its updated Freight Plan for 2025-30, which provides a strategic roadmap that will guide the State's freight and logistics network into a more sustainable, connected, and efficient future.

The plan outlines goals that include cutting red tape, supporting modal shifts to cleaner freight options, attracting private investment, and using data and technology to improve network performance. Community expectations around emissions and urban amenity are also a driving force behind the strategy.



Port of Melbourne is proud to have worked closely with the Victorian Government on the plan, and look forward to playing a leading role in its delivery. Learn more about [Victoria Delivers: Victorian Freight Plan 2025-30 here](#).

Also in August, Port of Melbourne welcomed the National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy and Action Plan 2025, announced by Minister Catherine King.

With a growing freight task and evolving global landscape, Australia's supply chain will benefit from a robust strategy that provides support for the sector and enables collaboration between government and industry. We support the priority areas highlighted in the Strategy and Action Plan, which drive the supply chain toward productivity, resilience, and sustainability.

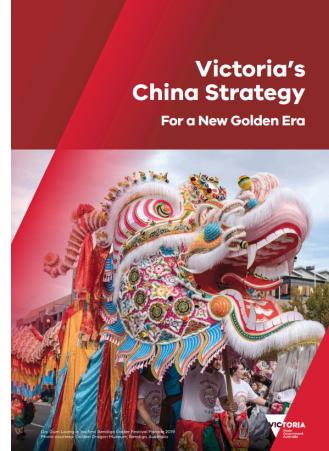
We look forward to continuing to work with government and industry, and investing in capacity and productivity enhancements that will position Australia for the future. Read the [National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy 2025 here](#).

### **Victoria's China Strategy: For a New Golden Era**

China is the Port's single largest trading partner: 50% of our imports come from China, and 20% of our local goods are exported to China. As such, Victoria's China Strategy: For a New Golden Era, launched by the Premier earlier this month, presents an important opportunity for the state's economic growth.

The strategy paves the way for strengthened collaboration, including in the agribusiness sector. Agriculture products represent Port of Melbourne's largest export commodity - and we commend the Victorian's Government's commitment to supporting our producers and exporters to continue this growth.

Learn more about [Victoria's China Strategy here](#).



### **Tasmanian Export Awards**

Tasmania is home to many producers and exporters of unique, high quality, and globally sought-after products. Port of Melbourne was proud to celebrate this by sponsoring the Sustainability and Green Economy category at the 2025 Tasmanian Export Awards on 19 September. Congratulations to the winner, Incat Tasmania, a leader in the transition to sustainable passenger and vehicle ferries.



Tasmania is an important partner in our supply chain. In FY25, we handled 223,000 TEU of containerised (and wheeled unitised) goods between Tasmania and Victoria, and in total 3.3m tonnes of goods. At our dedicated Tasmanian Terminals, we provide a vital connection between the Tasmanian and mainland economies, supporting the operation of daily short-sea services between Melbourne and Tasmania.

## Industry Boat Tour



Port of Melbourne is delighted to offer boat tours for the wider industry on Thursday, 13 November.

The tour will depart from Docklands at 1pm and provide the best vantage point to see the port in operation. Running for approximately 2 hours with commentary, the tour will take you up close to our main terminals.

*To book tickets, [please click here](#). Limit of 25 tickets per organisation*

## Community Engagement

### Port Education Program: Where Industry and Community Meet

Port of Melbourne provides a specialised Port Education Program tailored to fit with the Victorian Curriculum, which explores the port's operations and international trade networks.

To help deliver the VCE Vocational Major program, representatives of VICT, Quay Shipping, the Freight Trade Alliance (FTA), Offshore & Specialist Ships Australia (OSSA), AAT, and Pinnacle Training Group participated in the program by speaking with students about the growth industries in and around the port and the skills required to pursue them.



We thank our industry partners for contributing to building the future of our workforce.

*Are you interested in getting involved? Contact our Port Education Advisor at [education@portofmelbourne.com](mailto:education@portofmelbourne.com) to discuss opportunities in our 2026 program.*

## Public Boat Tours

We are thrilled to welcome the community – particularly residents of our neighbouring council areas – onboard our public boat tours. These tours are fun, family-friendly events and the best way to see Australia's largest container and general cargo port, right on the city's doorstep. Featuring guided commentary from port staff, community members will get to see the port from a whole new angle.



*Upcoming tours will run at 10am and 1pm on Saturday, 15 and 29 November. To book tickets, [please click here](#).*

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

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## Your Port of Melbourne Contacts

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

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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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