

November 17, 2020

DP World Terminal Stoppages

Dear Valued Customer,

C.H. Robinson has been advised of authorised Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) shutdowns across DP World terminals this week. Stoppages will be conducted on varying days around the country for approximately 4 hours to allow yard employees to vote on a new enterprise agreement. We expect delays and congestion to occur at DP World terminals as a result.

This year, industrial action by the MUA has severely impacted operations at key Australian ports with Port Botany the hardest hit. Further damaging the already fragile situation for Australian importers who face delays due to weather disruptions, berth congestion due to vessel bunching, vessel rotation changes, congested stevedore Direct Return of Empties pools and industrial action.

Industrial strikes saw cargo delays with a backlog of 90,000 containers at Port Botany alone, and wait times ranging from 3 to 18 days around the country. Recently, the MUA ended all industrial action at Australian ports after one and a half days at the fair work commission without coming to a new agreement. Terminal stoppages like the one held within this notice, is a positive step for the industry as we await finalised workplace agreements.

Despite the cessation of industrial action, operations remain unclear. Ports continue to see the effects of vessels omitting Sydney, and shipping lines limiting bookings into Port Botany creating flow on issues with containers being re-routed around the east-coast of the country, and efficient coastal services impeded.

Additionally, Freight and Trade Alliance (FTA) have just advised the following:

MUA Annual General Meeting (AGM) stop work meetings

On Tuesday, 24 November all DP World Australia terminals will have a four to five -hour approved stop work meeting to allow Maritime Union of Australia members to attend their AGM.

The extent and details of the stop work meetings for each terminal are listed below.

Tuesday, 24 November

Fremantle Terminal, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Sydney Terminal, 9:30 am to 2:00 pm

Melbourne Terminal, 9:30 am to 1:30 pm

All terminal operations will cease during this period

Brisbane Terminal, 7:00 am to 11:00 am

Vessel operations and road operations to the Old Terminal are affected. Road operations to the automated modules will continue as normal.

Thank you for being our Valued Customer. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the notice held within, please contact your Key Account Manager or a C.H. Robinson representative.

Sincerely,
C.H. Robinson.

Our information is compiled from a number of sources that to the best of our knowledge are accurate and correct. It is always the intent of our company to present accurate information. C.H. Robinson accepts no liability or responsibility for the information published herein.

