



Victorian educators push for 'logistic cities'

Melbourne tertiary education institutions have provided important initiatives for the maritime and logistics industries over the past week, including the establishment of "logistic cities".



Victoria University's Institute for Logistics and Supply Chain Management (ILSCM) has presented its report, *A Scoping Framework for Logistics Cities in Victoria*, to the Victorian Government.

ILSCM director Prof Pieter Nagel said that Melbourne was well placed to benefit from a strategic approach to transport and freight issues which had the potential to create economic growth and social benefits for all of the state.

"The report clearly shows that Melbourne can enhance its position as the leading Australian centre for the movement of goods with a coordinated approach to the creation of logistics cities," Prof Nagel said.

"We have recommended to the government that these cities be created in the west, the north and in the south-east of Melbourne, to align with the government's strategic direction in its Freight Futures plan.

"Logistics cities can be built in stages so that initially they house freight terminals and associated transport and logistics services.

"These can be developed into villages with manufacturing, warehousing and distribution hubs and, as these villages expand, they can be integrated with existing urban centres to create a logistics city.

Details have also emerged of Swinburne University's Port Access and Navigation five-day postgraduate study unit next week at its Hawthorn campus.

The unit will feature Melbourne under-keel clearance firm OMC International.

Prof Alexander Babanin, from Swinburne University's Faculty of Engineering and Industrial Sciences, said Ports Australia had recommended OMC as an industry partner.

"OMC is Australia's leading maritime engineering company with leading under keel clearance management technology," Professor Babanin said.

"This is an exciting new subject and provides information on specific issues related to port access, under keel clearance and vessel handling."

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