



Under-keel clearance systems for Australian port

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Rio Tinto's Western Australian Cape Lambert Port will be installing a new Dynamic Under Keel Clearance (DUKC) management system from OMC International. The agreement includes an extension of the existing DUKC contract for Rio Tinto shipping operations at the port of Dampier.

The DUKC system enables ships to get in and out of areas without risk of grounding, and is of especial help to ports with a sizeable tidal drop or ones with large significant wave heights on approach. The manufacturers point out every extra centimetre of draught on a large ship could mean an extra 130 tonnes of cargo.