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## OMC launches products to maximise capacity at Port Hedland

OMC International is set to deliver two new products to Port Hedland as part of a new five-year deal to boost capacity at the giant bulk export port.

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Port Hedland. Photo - Southern Cross Maritime

Under the agreement, Port Hedland Port Authority (PHPA) will upgrade to the latest web-based DUKC Series 5 software navigation technology.

It will be the first client of OMC to have these new products, Optimiser and DUKC Chart Overlay, integrated into the DUKC Series 5 system.

Rollout is expected to begin next year.

The initial DUKC Series 5 system became operational in 2011, used by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority to ensure safe shipping in Torres Strait.

“This five-year contract will equip Port Hedland with new innovative tools to optimise the number of ships sailing on a tide,” OMC executive director Dr Terry O’Brien said.

Dr O’Brien pioneered DUKC system almost twenty years ago.

“The port authority needs to manage increasing volumes through Port Hedland’s inner harbour, further exacerbated by the recent postponement of the Port Hedland Outer Harbour development by BHP Billiton

“These new technological developments will optimise the capacity of their existing channel,” Dr O’Brien said.

At a recent dinner in London, the web-based the DUKC Series 5 system was announced first runner-up in the 2012 IHS Safety at Sea Awards for engineering excellence.



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