



## Hon Luke Donnellan MP

Minister for Roads & Road Safety  
Minister for Ports

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Dear Sir / Madam

OMC International was founded in Victoria during 1987 and has since installed Dynamic Under Keel Clearance (DUKC®) platform technology in 24 ports internationally.

DUKC® is a maritime software system that receives real time data on tides, waves, weather and channel dimensions, integrating these with vessel specific data. With this data, DUKC® is used to assess how much under keel clearance is available and necessary for each individual vessel.

Use of the DUKC® system removes 'personal estimates of safety', by providing masters and pilots with accurate information regarding the maintenance of a safe under keel clearance for a planned transit of the Port Phillip Bay channels in Victoria, Australia.

Since the system's installation, some of the world's largest ships have safely navigated through the Port Phillip Bay heads and into the port of Melbourne. During 2014, the first Suezmax was piloted through the bay with the use of DUKC® and these are now safely transiting through the Heads at up to 14.5m, 50cm deeper than designed for in the Channel Deepening Project (or an additional 6,000t of oil).

DUKC® systems save billions of dollars for the shipping industry worldwide, reduce the risk of ship groundings and minimise dredging volumes. Minimisation of dredging is a cost saving and also reduces risks to the environment.

I am proud to recommend OMC International to port and channel authorities as a cost effective mechanism to improve safety, reduce the need for dredging and maximise cargo volumes.

Yours sincerely,



**The Hon. Luke Donnellan MP**

Minister for Ports

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