



David Elliott
Minister for Transport
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MEDIA RELEASE

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RECORDS TUMBLE AS TECHNOLOGY ALLOWS LARGER SHIPS AT PORT BOTANY

Two record breaking arrivals at Port Botany have set a new benchmark, with the deepest and heaviest ships ever to arrive at the port - made possible through a major technology investment by the NSW Government.

Minister for Transport and Veterans David Elliott said the investment in new technology to support the pilotage of vessels safely in and out of our ports was critical to the supply chain, the economy and the environment.

The MSC Le Havre, is the heaviest container ship to ever berth at Port Botany at 140,480 tonnes, while the MSC Tokyo set a new container ship record at Port Botany and the nation, as the deepest container ship to berth in any Australian port at 15.1m.

“The arrival of both these ships has been assisted by Dynamic Under Keel Clearance (DUKC) technology used by Port Authority’s expert Vessel Traffic Services team and marine pilots,” Mr Elliott said.

“It provides precision data in real time on the under keel clearance required to berth the ships safely, factoring in complex information about the ship’s displacement, dynamic motion of the vessel and live weather conditions – all critical information utilised by the highly skilled marine teams.

Port Authority of NSW CEO Philip Holliday said the benefits of investment in this technology were recognised by the industry with Port Authority receiving a Highly Commended for Supply Chain Innovation and Technology at the recent DCN Australian Maritime and Shipping Industry awards in Sydney.

“This means more efficient shipping, allowing us to safely manage ships with deeper draughts, which means facilitating greater cargo capacity, without any need for significant infrastructure development and further minimising risks,” Mr Holliday said.

Previous records were held by the MSC Asya which was the heaviest, at 140,252t and deepest draught container ship at 14.8m to enter any Australian port.

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