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# ftw FREIGHT & TRADING WEEKLY

FRIDAY 18 May 2012 NO. 2007

For import/export decision-makers

## TPT achieves ambitious productivity targets

Gross crane hours up from 27 to 30

BY Alan Peat

Transnet Port Terminals (TPT) has set ambitious productivity goals, and figures just released to FTW indicate that these are being achieved at both Durban container terminal (DCT) Pier 2 and Pier 1.

The figures for gross crane hours (GCH) – which is the common measure of productivity in the container handling business – have improved from an average of 27 in March to 30 in April at the prime Berth 205 at the DCT Pier 2. At prime Berth 108 at Pier 1 the figures are 27-GCH in March and 28 in April. This measurement of crane productivity is considered a crucial factor in container shipping, where the fast and efficient movement of containers by crane operators effectively reduces the overall cost of doing business.

Meantime, ship working hours (SWH) – the number of containers that have been moved by the number of



This blue Liebherr crane off-loading the MSC Rita (a 7 500-TEU capacity vessel) is a machine that can be used as a single-lift or twin-lift, but only with adjustments to the spreader. However, the seven new ship-to-shore (STS) cranes that will be delivered towards the end of the year are tandem-lift units (which can lift four TEUs), part of the new equipment acquisition in the Durban container terminal (DCT) Pier 2 recovery plan.

cranes working on the vessel in one hour – have also improved at both prime berths. At Berth 205 they went up from an average of 62-SWH in March to 69 in April. And at Berth 108 it increased from 62-SWH in March to

68 in April.

When TPT introduced the container terminal operations contract (CTOC) – which guaranteed berthing on arrival – reward and penalty clauses were embedded in the contract for higher

productivity performances. Using this measure, the TPT performance at the two berths registered CTOC compliance of 67% in March and 76% in April.

TPT is also rather

To page 20

## D-day for input on proposed citrus levy

BY Alan Peat

With the current citrus levy due to expire at the end of December this year, the Citrus Growers' Association (CGA) is now asking growers across South Africa to approve a new citrus levy for the years 2013 to 2016.

Levies raised under the Marketing of Agricultural Products (MAP) Act are normally gazetted for a four-year period, Robert Miller of the CGA told FTW.

“The present levy administered by CGA was for the period 2008 to 2012 – ending on December 31, 2012,” he added. “Growers were informed of the planned new levy by way of a circular sent to them all in December last year, while the subject was covered extensively at

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Editor Joy Orlek  
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 Gwen Spangenberg  
 Jodi Haigh

Divisional Head Anton Marsh  
 Managing Editor David Marsh

Correspondents  
 Port Elizabeth Ed Richardson  
 Tel: (041) 582 3750  
 Swaziland James Hall  
 jhall@realnet.co.sz

Advertising Tracie Barnett, Paula Snell  
 Co-ordinators Tanya Bosch  
 Design & layout wanitaf@nowmedia.co.za  
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 Fax + 27 11 327 4094  
 E-mail carmell@nowmedia.co.za  
 Web www.ftwonline.co.za

Now Media Centre  
 32 Fricker Road, Illovo Boulevard,  
 Illovo, Johannesburg.  
 PO Box 55251, Northlands,  
 2116, South Africa.



## DUTY CALLS

### Textile Fabric Inter-Layered Application

On 04 May the International Trade Administration Commission of South Africa (Itac) published a notice in the Government Gazette in respect of the proposed increase in the rate of customs duty on textile fabric inter-layered or otherwise combined with bentonite clay, classifiable under tariff subheading 5911.10.90, from free of customs duty (“General” rate of customs duty) to 25% ad valorem.

The application was lodged by Kaymac (Pty) Ltd who provided the following reasoning for the application (i) Protect capital investment and improve potential for further investment and expansion; (ii) Retain local jobs and create further job opportunities; and (iii) Protect local industry and prevent potential cheap and inferior products.

Comment is due by 01 June 2012.

### Leather Customs Duty Rebate Application

On 04 May Itac published a notice in the Government Gazette in respect of the proposed rebate of the full rate of customs duty on leather prepared after tanning or crusting, including parchment dressed leather of buffalo animals, without hair on, being grain split, side leather, classifiable under tariff subheading 4107.9, for use in the manufacture of safety footwear.

The application was lodged by Bagshaw Footwear, a division of Bolton Footwear (Pty) Ltd who provided the following reasoning for the application: (i) The product in question is not manufactured in the Southern African Customs Union (Sacu); and (ii) The import duty paid on the raw material renders the applicant uncompetitive against the imported finished product.

Comment is due by 01 June 2012.

### Textile Rebates – Guidelines & Rules

On 04 May Itac published “Guidelines, Rules and Conditions Pertaining to

Rebate Items 311.42/5208/01.04 – 311.42/5209/01.04 – 311.42/5210/01.04 – 311.42/5407/01.04 – 311.42/5513/01.04 – 311.42/5514/01.04 – 320.02/5208/01.04 – 320.02/5209/01.04 – 320.02/5210/01.04 – 320.02/5407/01.04 – 320.02/5513/01.01 and 320.02/5514/01.04”.

Itac also published “Application for a Permit in terms of Rebate Items 311.42/5208/01.04 – 311.42/5209/01.04 – 311.42/5210/01.04 – 311.42/5407/01.04 – 311.42/5513/01.04 – 311.42/5514/01.04 – 320.02/5208/01.04 – 320.02/5209/01.04 – 320.02/5210/01.04 – 320.02/5407/01.04 – 320.02/5513/01.01 and 320.02/5514/01.04 for Rebate of Duty – Textile Bed, Toilet and Kitchen Linen; Curtains, Interior Blinds, Curtain or Bed Valances, other Furnishing Articles and Articles of Bedding and Similar Furnishing fitted with Springs or Stuffed or Internally

fitted with any Material or of Cellular Rubber or Plastics, whether or not Covered”.

### Customs Rules for Travellers

In an earlier issue we advised of a South African Revenue Service (Sars) notice to amend the Rules to the Customs and Excise Act (Sections 15 and 120), and forms relating to the Traveller Card (TC-01) and the Traveller Declaration (TRD1).

It is important to take into account Rule 15.01(a)(ii) which stipulates that a traveller may only use the forms TC-01 and/or TRD1 for declaring goods or vehicles required to be declared on these forms and places and from the date specified for each place.

Implementation dates: Vioolsdrift (19 May), Nakop (19 May), Quachasneck (26 May), and Caledonspoort (26 May).

Note: This is a non-comprehensive statement of the law. No liability can be accepted for errors and omissions.

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# Swazi strike will bring transport to a standstill

BY James Hall

Swaziland transport workers will block all imports from SA for 11 days commencing May 29.

“Our intention is to shut down Swaziland until our demands are met,” said the Swaziland Transport and Allied Workers Unions (STAWU) in a statement.

Essentially a public transport workers’ union, STAWU is nonetheless allied with other unions representing transport workers at Unitrans, Cargo Carriers and local firms like Chrisilda Transport and Fuel Logic. Strike organisers said they were seeking a blockage of fuel imports in particular as a way to

stop commercial and transportation activity in the country.

All Swaziland’s petroleum products are imported from SA. About 90% of consumer goods and supermarket food products are also brought in by road from SA.

Strike demands include a rollback of VAT, which was introduced in Swaziland last month. However, the office of the government spokesman told FTW that VAT was not open for discussion.

Business interests contacted by FTW said they anticipated government granting concessions on other strike issues – matters like road fines and the issuance of transport licences – as a way to avoid chaos.

## SAA ups capacity to Mumbai

South African Airways (SAA) is adding flights on the Johannesburg-Mumbai route.

From June 16 the airline will operate five flights a week between the two cities, one more than is currently on offer. The

additional flight is subject to government approval.

In addition, SAA will introduce a bigger aircraft on selected days and plans are in place to add further frequencies in the future.

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# Government red tape delays launch of Airlink's Namibia service

Route rights granted – but no foreign operator's permit

BY Liesl Venter

Moving cargo to and from Namibia is high on the agenda for Airlink Cargo, but as the airline has yet to be issued with a foreign operator's permit its planes remain grounded.

Airlink Cargo was allocated route rights from

Johannesburg to Windhoek for seven flights a week at the end of October, but as the permit has not been issued the airline has not been able to launch its new service.

According to Airlink Cargo CEO, Alwyn Rautenbach, a dedicated freighter aircraft

concentrating on the express market and connecting interline freight will service the route.

“As an airline we have no influence on the process around the issuing of permits. This is handled at governmental level. There is no time line as to when we will have a permit or when

we can institute the service between South Africa and Namibia,” he said.

Airlink Cargo successfully services SA domestic routes as well as several southern African countries including Swaziland, Lesotho, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Madagascar and

Mozambique. The airline is set to introduce its daily service to Botswana in June this year.

“Namibia is the most obvious country we want to expand our service to,” said Rautenbach. “We believe there are major possibilities and it is high on our agenda.”

## New airfreight branch manager for CFR

BY Joy Orlek

Ongoing growth of its airfreight consolidation product has motivated the appointment by independent consolidator CFR Freight of a new key staff member.

Effective this month, Stephen Bishop takes over as Johannesburg airfreight branch manager from Dave Gurney who will move into a sales and servicing role on June 1.

“With the growth of this division and this branch in particular we felt the need for another dedicated airfreight sales person,” airfreight director Dave Graham told FTW.

Bishop, who brings 11 years of experience to the position, has worked across the entire logistics spectrum, most recently in a sales and key account management role at Savino del Bene, and previous to that at UTi where he spent seven and a half years.



Stephen Bishop ... 'Aggressive marketing strategy for the year ahead.'

Photo: Shannon Hill

Graham, who worked with Bishop at UTi, says his mandate will be to continue to grow the business, but also to focus on customer retention through strong service levels and a personal relationship with the clients.

“We're looking at an aggressive marketing strategy for the year ahead, at the same time ensuring that operations and service levels are maintained,” said Bishop.

## Expect increases rather than decreases in fuel price

South Africans have a slim chance of any sustained period of lower fuel prices. In fact, according to an assessment by Absa Asset Management Private Clients, further increases rather than decreases are still possible.

According to Absa advisers, the driver of any drop in pump prices has to be the basic fuel price (BFP) element in the calculation carried out every month by the Central Energy Fund.

The BFP is the underlying cost of fuel and can be thought of as the cost of importing a litre of petrol from international refineries.

The trend in the BFP is monitored by consumers through global benchmark

prices such as Brent crude (the price from this North Sea oilfield), West Texas Intermediate or WTI, Dubai crude and the OPEC reference price from its basket of crude prices.

Craig Pheiffer, general manager investments at Absa Asset Management Private Clients, suggests local motorists will look in vain for relief from the non-BFP components of our pump prices – items such as transport and delivery costs, wholesale and retail margins and taxes, including the general fuel levy, the Road Accident Fund levy and customs and excise duties.

“It's unlikely that taxes and delivery costs and margins will be reduced

in (our still) regulated environment and that's why the consumer's hope lies in a lower oil price in the BFP.”

The bad news is that forecasts from Absa's UK sister-company Barclays Capital indicate the BFP could face upward rather than downward pressure.

The British colleagues of the team at Absa Private Clients projects an average 2012 price of US\$120 a barrel for Brent crude oil, up from \$111 last year, while West Texas Intermediate is projected to average US\$105 a barrel in 2012, up from \$95 in 2011.

Barclays Capital also forecasts that global crude demand for 2012 will reach 89.8 million barrels a day.

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# SA Airlink to launch daily Maun service

BY Liesl Venter

SA Airlink is set to launch a new service to Botswana in June this year when the airline starts flying daily to Maun.

According to Alwyn Rautenbach, CEO of Airlink Cargo, this bodes well for the freight industry.

“At present there are no cargo facilities at Maun Airport, and while the flight is mainly aimed at servicing passengers, it does create great opportunities for the movement of cargo to Botswana.”

Rautenbach said Airlink Cargo intended to develop cargo facilities and this could be in conjunction with Air Botswana, the only other airline to fly to Maun at present.

“An Airlink ERJ 135 37-seater aircraft will service the route daily,” said

Rautenbach. “The flight will depart Johannesburg at 11:45, arriving at 13:15 before returning to Johannesburg at 14:00 with final touchdown at 15:40. Depending on how much baggage passengers carry, we foresee cargo capacity of around 400-450kilos per flight.”

He said SA Airlink would grow the service to a bigger craft that would allow them to carry at least a ton or more depending on the route demand.

“While it is a very small aircraft to begin with we believe there are major opportunities to develop cargo capacity and to increase the movement of cargo between Johannesburg and the Okavango Delta region.”

He said the outbound flight offered major opportunities for small express parcels, spare parts and other goods



Alwyn Rautenbach and Marzanne Killian ... ‘Big opportunity to develop cargo market between Johannesburg and the Okavango Delta region.’

needed in the remote area of Maun and its surrounding areas where everything at present has to be road-freighted. “In terms of the return market we see some major opportunity in the movement of hunting trophies that either have to be brought to Johannesburg to taxidermists or exported.”

Botswana is now the

seventh international country for SA Airlink which also serves Mozambique, Madagascar, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Swaziland and Lesotho.

“The Okavango Delta is primarily a tourist destination and through our daily service to the region we expect to see some major growth on this route over time.”

## Trade expo serves up bumper event

Two of South Africa’s biggest trade expos – Africa’s Big Seven and SAITEX – are upping their game by adding more components.

According to John Thompson, managing director of Exhibition Management Services (EMS), organisers of AB7 and SAITEX, they have partnered with Trade Conferences International to host the inaugural Retail Solutions Africa Conference in South Africa as well as the On-line Retailing Conference.

“There’s another big value-add for visitors this year,” said Thomson. “SAITEX is hosting the ‘Future of Trade Africa 2012’ conference for the first time.”

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# 'Shipping lines standing on a burning platform'

BY Joy Orlek

While mergers and acquisitions appear to be a growing trend in the logistics industry, it's less evident among shipping lines where operational consolidation with a lot more vessel sharing agreements appears to be the order of the day.

"The industry is very fragmented and the results everyone is publishing aren't sustainable on a macro level," says Safmarine CEO Grant Daly. "Globally consolidation needs to move a bit further into the commercial sphere," he added.

"The industry is in a very tough place," Safmarine's southern Africa cluster executive Jonathan Horn added. "We're all standing on a burning platform, and while the immediate focus is returning to a state of profitability – that's not

good enough. You have to get to the level where you're making an acceptable return on investment for your shareholder, which is why there's a lot of focus on rates in addition to cost-reduction measures.

"We fully understand our customers are under pressure but at end of the day we have to make sure we are here in

'When you're speeding up there are huge impacts in terms of bunker consumption.'

10 years' time."

Several interventions are in place to cut costs and so achieve that profitability, slow steaming among them. "And it has many positive benefits in terms of reliability and impact on the

environment," says Daly.

"There's also an operational consequence that you are consuming less fuel. We feel we're not impacting on the reliability or quality of the service we offer but it's a very important initiative to address our cost base."

And addressing that cost base becomes all the more critical when dealing with issues like congestion at South Africa's biggest port – which is likely to get worse before it gets better.

While the industry is in full agreement that the investment in Durban over the next several years is very positive for our economy and supply chains and is key to keeping South Africa competitive on the world stage, there will clearly be disruptions that will need to be dealt with as they arise. Apart from the thousands of dollars per day that it costs



Jonathan Horn ... 'You must make an acceptable return on investment for your shareholder.'

for a vessel waiting to berth, there's the additional cost in terms of fuel consumption because the vessel has to speed up to get back into sequence.

"All schedules have a small degree of buffer – but when you're speeding up there are huge impacts in terms of bunker consumption if you are spending a lot of time waiting."

## Slow steaming benefits in a nutshell

Financial and environmental challenges have been the prime motivators of growing moves to slow steaming in the shipping industry.

Some interesting facts and figures provided by Hans Christian Griesinger, Essberger's shipmanagement director, offer some insight into the practical impact of the concept.

"If a container ship reduces speed from 22 to 12 knots, one can save 75% of the fuel consumption and about half of the CO<sub>2</sub> emission," he says.

And since one can return to maximum engine performance whenever needed, it's a highly flexible option.

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# Escalating costs challenge abnormal load hauliers

**'Volumes slightly lower than expected'**

BY Liesl Venter

Keeping your head above water in uncertain economic times while having to contend with a host of different legal operational requirements is part and parcel of the job for abnormal load hauliers.

With volumes slightly lower than expected in 2012, small-to-medium transport companies have some tough times ahead, according to Louis Lauwrens of ML Transport Solutions.

"Volumes are not where we want them to be, while at the same time costs are increasing drastically – be it for permits, the introduction of tolls or the increase in the fuel price."

He believes it is becoming increasingly difficult for the smaller operators to stay afloat in the current economic times.

"Rates have not increased relative to the variables that we have to deal with and the cost increases that have occurred in the past year or so," he told FTW. "Add to the cost increases the deteriorating infrastructure and the impact

on the maintenance of vehicles and the situation is extremely concerning."

Based in Boksburg on the East Rand, ML Transport Solutions has strong ties to Botswana where the company also has an office. "We established ourselves in 2004 as a service provider to the local transport market, focusing on the abnormal sector and providing them with a permit and clearing service."

Through natural progression the company has since branched out and built up its own fleet of low-bed trucks, also focusing on the movement of abnormal loads.

"There are major operational limitations on abnormal hauliers – ranging from when we are allowed to be on the roads to having original permits in every vehicle and arranging for escorts"

According to Lauwrens' business partner Bea Mann, this is further compounded by the difference in legislation from province to province. "Each province has its own set of operational regulations that



Louis Lauwrens and Bea Mann ... 'Major operational limitations on abnormal hauliers.'

one is guided by. That means when moving from Cape Town to Limpopo one needs several permits while load factors also vary in the different provinces. All of this adds to the cost and one cannot always pass it on to the client as rates are not keeping pace."

With e-tolling to be possibly introduced in Gauteng and the fuel price increasing yet again, the scenario for transporters

remains bleak.

"One must remember that trucks keep this country going and the burden being placed on truckers is exceptionally high. It is a situation that many small operators won't be able to tolerate and will ultimately end badly, leaving the big players in the market with monopolies. It is a situation we must avoid at all costs," she said.

## 'SA's prospects look positive'

Trade with dynamic emerging economies, particularly China, India and Brazil, has lifted South Africa's economic prospects, according to credit insurer Coface.

One of the recovery factors is GDP having shown an increase in the fourth quarter of 2011, coming in at 3.2% quarter-on-quarter at a seasonally adjusted annual rate.

Coface South Africa projects a (GDP) growth of 2.8% in 2012 and 4.4% in 2013.

Due to weak demand from the Eurozone, it could mean that export growth could slow, but it is currently being kept strong by a weaker rand and increasing fixed investments, says Coface.

In 2011 exports increased 21% while imports rose 36% compared to 2010. "This clearly shows that there is stabilisation in export momentum, but also a rise in import growth."

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FTW1418SD



## DOMESTIC TRANSPORT

# Truck booking system to be piloted at DCT

BY Alan Peat

Next month will see the launch of a truck booking system at Durban Container Terminal as port management pulls out all the stops to minimise delays.

“Under the new appointment system,” Hector Danisa, DCT terminal executive told

‘The challenge now is to build sustainable processes to ensure continued performance.’

FTW, “transporters will schedule their container collections or drop-offs via the Navis terminal operating system. They will then be allocated a time-slot of about one and a half hours within which to arrive at the terminal.

This will enable TPT and transport companies to deploy resources more efficiently and effectively, and could also minimise truck congestion on Bayhead Road.”

The truck appointment system will be piloted at DCT Pier 2 from June. This, Danisa added, will improve the scheduling of road cargo and general productivity in the logistics chain. “It will initially be tested with four trucking companies, and could be extended thereafter,” he said.

Danisa told FTW that DCT Pier 2’s container handling had improved beyond pre-Navis launch levels. “But,” he added, “the challenge now is to build sustainable processes to ensure continued performance and to make DCT competitive at international norms.”

# Speculation around Sanral’s CEO successor rejected

The Department of Transport has openly rejected a news report carried by the Mail and Guardian newspaper suggesting that a certain Chris Hlabisa “tops the list” for the position of chief executive officer of Sanral.

“The report is devoid of any grain of truth, misleading and can only be aimed at causing confusion and advancing narrow self-interest at the expense of the Department and Sanral’s currency,” according to a statement from the DoT.

“The insinuation that Mr Hlabisa is “Ndebele’s buddy” is a figment of someone’s imagination aimed at casting aspersions on a professional working relationship.

“It should further be noted that Minister Ndebele has been in the transport sector for the past 18 years and common sense would dictate that during these two decades, he would have interacted and worked with



Gauteng expected to generate about R350m a month in toll fees.

Photo: Shannon Hill

several professionals within this field.

“We wish to put it on record that the Board of Directors of Sanral is responsible for the recruitment and selection of the agency’s CEO, not the Department or Minister of Transport.”

The Department says the Board will, within a reasonable period of time, undertake a thorough and legitimate process of finding a suitable candidate to steer Sanral forward.

“Once the Board finalises the process and agrees on a candidate, it will request the Minister of Transport to table its recommendation before Cabinet, which has the authority to appoint or not to appoint.

“The Board must be given space and support as they work towards maintaining stability at Sanral and ensuring that the agency continues to deliver quality road networks to the people of South Africa.”

## ‘Reduction in road deaths is prime focus of Aarto’

BY Liesl Venter

The Administrative Adjudication of Road Traffic Offences (Aarto) Act is not a magic bullet that will fix the

host of issues around traffic law enforcement in South Africa, but is rather focused on reducing the death toll on the roads.

Collins Letsoalo, acting

chief executive officer of the Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC), said Aarto was never intended to fix everything that is wrong with law enforcement.

“Aarto provides for a transparent, fair and effective infringement and offences system that will contribute to promoting quality, safety and

discipline in road traffic, facilitating adjudication of road traffic infringements and ultimately effecting a reduction in road fatalities and injuries.”

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## DOMESTIC TRANSPORT

## 'Law-abiding operators have nothing to fear from Aarto'

BY Liesl Venter

Operators who are legal and don't cut corners have nothing to fear from the Administrative Adjudication of Road Traffic Offences (Aarto) Act, said Collins Letsoalo, acting chief executive officer of the Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC).

Speaking at the Transport Forum in Johannesburg recently, he said Aarto provided for a fair, transparent and effective system and law-abiding operators had nothing to worry about.

"Aarto seeks to bring a solution to the high road death toll in South Africa. It is not aimed at targeting anyone. If you are an operator that does not cut corners then you have nothing to worry about," he said. "Yes, we can talk about the administrative costs of Aarto, but I don't think there is a mother out there who says I can't go and earn a living because I might die today. At the same time no mother sends her child to school just so that he can be hit by a car because someone is

reckless out there."

He said South Africa needed Aarto. "It is a system that has been proven to work across the world and we believe it will work here as well."

Letsoalo said that a basic principle of the Act was the decriminalisation of traffic violations by re-classifying them as either traffic infringements, major infringements or offences. Serious offences such as drunk driving, excessive speed, reckless driving and hit-and-run cases will still remain crimes in terms of the Criminal Procedure Act.

"Drivers and operators will incur penalty points for offences committed under the proposed points demerit system, which will be managed through the National Contravention Register (NCR) on the ENaTIS system. A threshold mark of 12 demerit points has been set – once these points have been exceeded, licences and permits will be suspended."

Aarto also contains a country-wide fixed penalty system for all traffic infringements.



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FTW5581

## DOMESTIC TRANSPORT

# Portable weighbridges answer short- and long-term needs

BY Ed Richardson

Companies with a requirement for a weighbridge on their site but off their balance sheet, or farmers and project managers requiring them seasonally or for limited periods of time, can now lease a South African-designed and manufactured range.

Demand for weighbridges is growing as companies realise the value of the management information that is available by routinely weighing all traffic of vehicles in and out of their mine, yard or farm.

Fleet managers also have to install weighbridges in order to protect themselves and their companies from being prosecuted under Aarto (Administrative Adjudication of Road Traffic Offences), according to Dawie Spangenberg of the Central Weighbridge Company (CWC) South Africa.

"Anyone that sells or moves

product on the public roads in trucks will have to install a weighbridge, including smaller distributors and farmers. This is the reason we have introduced the option of a full maintenance lease for our weighbridges," he says.

CWC designs, manufactures, installs and maintains weighbridges throughout the sub-region.

The weighbridges can cater for road vehicles from 44 metres long, and can be made to any custom width.

A recent addition to the range of product is a 22m Rail-Road weighbridge designed, supplied and installed at a major sugar mill in KZN for the distribution of bulk sugar from the silo facility by rail wagon and also by road vehicle. It is designed to accept a GVM of 105mt, but also to isolate two of the independent platforms for the mass determination of a rail wagon which is some 6 metres shorter than the

articulated road vehicle.

It also owns and supplies a customised software management system.

"A weighbridge is only as good as the software. All weighbridges have platforms, load-cells that basically determine the mass. It is what you are able to do with the information that really counts," he says.

'The CWC system is real time and capable of linking several remote locations.'

The CWC system is real time and capable of linking several remote locations. It will, for example, capture a vehicle's despatch details at a depot in Gauteng, and make this information available for comparison when it arrives at the weigh-in point at its destination in Cape Town.

Any discrepancies are

immediately highlighted by the system.

The reinforced concrete weighbridge has been designed by structural and mechanical engineers. Unlike any other weighbridge, the mechanical system is designed for strength, toughness, stiffness and longevity. Major stress areas have been specifically strengthened. The design philosophy is for high safety margins and cyclic fatigue. This translates into a structure that has a long life span wherein over resonance is effectively dealt with.

All this helps to reduce the cost of fabrication and installation, and also counters the theft of steel plates from an all-steel weighbridge design, as well as the obvious rust challenge. The 'Portable Weighbridge', designed and manufactured by CWC, is unique. Unlike other weighbridge designs it requires little or no

foundation work. The need for expensive civil works has been significantly reduced and in numerous instances the weighbridge can be installed directly onto a hard-core base, existing road or concrete surfaces. Furthermore, the concrete entry ramps are connected to the sub-base, allowing easy access onto and off the Weighbridge. These features make for a first in portable weighbridges in Africa, says Spangenberg.

Modern load cells have greatly simplified the installation of weighbridges, which are now predominantly installed above ground. This feature makes for easier access and cleaning, he says.

Leases are offered from six to 60 months.

"Even though it is made of steel and reinforced concrete, we can pick it up, load it onto a flatbed and install it somewhere else," says Spangenberg.

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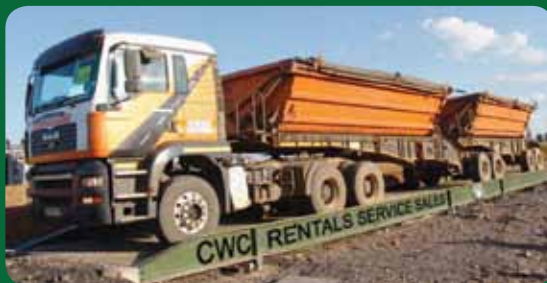
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FTW5409

## DOMESTIC TRANSPORT

# Cost of Aarto implementation worries RFA

BY Liesl Venter

Increased cost to companies remains the major concern of the Road Freight Association (RFA) when it comes to the Administrative Adjudication of Road Traffic Offences (Aarto) Act, according to Gavin Kelly, RFA technical and operations manager.

“There is no disagreement that we have a horrendous road safety situation in the country and that it must be addressed. In principle the RFA is not opposed to Aarto, but we have some major concerns, especially around increased costs.”

Speaking at the Transport Forum in Johannesburg recently, Kelly said the jury

was still out on whether Aarto in its current form would be able to address the road safety situation in the country and was not just another revenue-driven policing initiative.

“For Aarto to be successful the country needs a very efficient driver licensing process along with effective and well-trained law enforcement officials and reliable and easy-to-use technology.”

Kelly said access to ENaTIS was however not easy or cheap, while Aarto could lead to the targeting of operators not just by their own employees but also officials.

He said there were also too many offences carrying demerit points that could

easily just be penalised via fines, making the entire process complex and difficult to manage.

“How is an operator going to manage a fleet of drivers in their personal time and how will he know every Monday morning if each of his drivers still has a licence and points. It is going to be costly for companies as it has a huge administrative side that has to be managed,” said Kelly.

He said Aarto also allowed for a huge corruptive centre that was worrying.

“From a freight perspective we are not against Aarto, but we are saying that it needs minimal human interface, a well-trained and effective police force to manage it

and reliable technology. Until all of that is in place we don't see it being successful.”

He said the cost impact on business would also have to be addressed.

“There is an in-house administrative requirement cost as well as the access cost to ENaTIS and other information, along with the pool of vehicles and drivers a company will now have to have on standby should a driver lose his licence or a vehicle be pulled off the road.”

Kelly said a major concern of the RFA was the plethora of foreign drivers being employed in South Africa who did not fall under Aarto, as they did not have local drivers' licences.

“We support an



Gavin Kelly ... 'Foreign drivers who don't fall under Aarto a major concern.'

initiative to make the roads safer, an initiative to remove high-risk road users and move the bad operators off the road, but to do that one needs to eradicate corruption first and introduce fair and transparent prosecution while dealing with the causes and not just the symptoms,” said Kelly.



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FTW2480SD

## DOMESTIC TRANSPORT

# Positive outlook for expansion of Swazi rail line

BY James Hall

“Not if but when” has long been the thinking at Swaziland Railway concerning extension of the nation’s rail line infrastructure. When the country’s inoperative iron ore mine was open for salvaging mining tailings last year, speculation in Swaziland centred around the concomitant reopening of the rail system’s original line to Ngwenya.

However, in his last interview with FTW as CEO of Swaziland Railway, Gideon Mahlalela said: “There are 700 million tonnes for iron ore at Ngwenya, but no company has been granted a licence. We cannot just build the line. We want to see a licence and (mining company’s) backing.”

Excavating all that iron ore would be a multi-year project and make the revival

of the old Ngwenya line worthwhile. By contrast, current operations to take out decades-old iron ore tailings will be concluded in five or six years. That’s not worth the investment in rail line upgrade. The ore tailings are being trucked to eastern Swaziland and transferred to rail cars en route to Maputo.

Swaziland’s rail system carries goods, not passengers, and Mahlalela said little cargo originated locally. The rail company realises its profits through transit traffic from SA. Nevertheless, promoters of rail transport in parliament and the private sector saw the expansion of the rail infrastructure as vital to Swaziland’s economic expansion. The Ngwenya line, along with some infrastructure extension on the SA side, were long seen as a “missing link” that if filled would

enable direct rail traffic from Gauteng to Maputo via Swaziland, cutting hundreds of kilometres off a trip currently made on other lines.

Hoped for expansion did arrive in January, when Transnet Freight Rail and Swaziland Railway announced the Swazilink initiative: a 146-km line originating in Lothair, Mpumalanga and terminating at Swaziland Railway’s Sidvokodvo Junction. The core line is budgeted at R7.3m. R8.6m will be spent on 600 km of connecting rail lines on the SA side. SA’s government is putting up R12m, while Swaziland Railways is seeking a PPP arrangement. If funding is obtained, the first General Electric locomotives are scheduled to start transporting coal along the line in 2015 or 2016, significantly advancing



Gideon Mahlalela ... mission accomplished.

rail transport in Swaziland.

“I’ve been working for years on this project,” said Mahlalela, a long-serving president of the Southern Africa Railway Association.

He can now retire with a sense of mission accomplished.

## SA entrepreneur recognised

North Star Alliance director, Paul Matthew, has been named Social Entrepreneur of the Year Africa by the Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship at the World Economic Forum on Africa.

Matthew established the Trucking Against AIDS programme which was taken up by the road freight industry and became a model of health service delivery for truck drivers in South Africa. It also led to the development of North Star Alliance in 2006.

This provides mobile workers with continual access to high-quality health and safety services through “Roadside Wellness Centres”.

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FTW2012SD

# Landside logistics capacity challenges export growth

BY Liesl Venter

Currency fluctuations and landside logistics capacity remain two of the greatest challenges facing South African exporters, says Glenn Delve, national commercial director for MSC SA.

“High tariffs are another limiting factor that we must address if we want to grow our export base.”

With Africa purported to be the next global growth area, there are major opportunities in adding value and benefiting – especially taking into consideration the large amount of base minerals exported out of the country.

According to Delve, it is essential that one continually explores

opportunities to increase exporting. Companies should also do all they can to offer a one-stop-shop service to clients and improve the logistics chain for increased customer satisfaction.

“Employing greater capacity vessels on major trades to accommodate the required tonnage is just as important,” says Delve. “A pendulum service serving Europe, South Africa and the Far East and vice versa can make a major difference. We should also be investigating the various ports of call that are not being covered at present.”

He says by manufacturers making a conscious effort to increase and add value South African exports can and will flourish.

# CHC offers forwarders outsourced warehousing option

BY Liesl Venter

CHC Container Depot has big plans for its Durban facility where a new sales manager has recently been appointed.

Lee Viljoen, who joined the company on March 1, has vast experience in the freight industry and

‘Providing a warehousing service to clearing agents who don’t have the facilities.’

is planning to grow the customer base extensively in the coming months.

“Having only been in the container business for about two years there are still major opportunities for CHC to grow and extend its reach,” she told FTW recently.

And one of the ways of achieving this will be by raising service levels, she said.

CHC is currently upgrading its Durban facility and has invested some R20 million to increase capacity ahead of demand.

“Over the next six months the focus will definitely be on growing our business when it comes to customs-stopped containers,” said Viljoen. “We are also planning to grow our third party warehousing as well as expanding our bond store.”

According to Viljoen, keeping close to customers and being able to address their needs is important.

“One area that we are establishing ourselves in is to provide a warehousing service to clearing agents who don’t have the



Lee Viljoen ... new sales manager.

facilities.”

She said these agents, by attaching themselves to a facility like CHC, can actually compete with the multinationals as they don’t have to invest in the infrastructure as CHC has done it for them.

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FTW5447

# Emirates posts positive results – for 24th consecutive year

Bucking the industry trend, the 2011-12 financial year has been a strong one for Emirates SkyCargo with revenues of US\$ 2.6 billion an 8.4 % increase on last year thanks to an increase in freight tonnage and freight yield per Freight Tonne Kilometre (FTKM) which rose by 5.4%.

Contributing 16.2 % of Emirates' total transport revenue, Emirate SkyCargo continues to play an integral role in the company's expanding operations, Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, chairman and chief executive of Emirates Airline said.

At the end of the financial year, Emirates SkyCargo freighter fleet numbered eight – two on wet lease and six on operating lease.

This as the Emirates Group announced its 24th consecutive year of profit

and company-wide growth amidst unprecedented economic pressure and record-high fuel prices.

In its just-released 2011-12 Annual Report, the company posted a US\$ 629 million net profit, with dnata marking its highest-ever profit in 52 years of operation.

Forging ahead with its expansion plans, Emirates received 22 new aircraft during the year including 14 Boeing 777-300ERs, two Boeing 777Fs and six A380s from Airbus, the highest number of aircraft received in a single year of operation.

With an increased fleet, Emirates launched 11 new destinations in 2011-12 including a strong focus on North America and South America in the final quarter with Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Seattle and Dallas-Fort Worth all launching between January



Emirates takes delivery of Boeing's 1000th Boeing 777 during a special event at the manufacturer's plant in Everett, Washington State. At the Dubai Airshow last November Emirates announced an order for an additional 50 Boeing 777-300 ER aircraft, and 20 777-300 ER options valued at US\$ 26 billion.

and March 2012.

In addition the airline added capacity to 34 cities including Manchester, Hamburg, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Khartoum, Lahore and Tunis. Looking forward to 2012-13, the airline has

to date announced four new routes including Ho Chi Minh City, Barcelona, Lisbon and Washington DC.

New A380 destinations for the airline in 2011-12 included Munich, Rome, Shanghai, Kuala Lumpur

and Johannesburg, bringing the total number of A380 destinations to 17. In the coming financial year it will launch a further three A380 destinations including Melbourne, Tokyo and Amsterdam.

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FTW0307

## LETTER

## Shedding more light on Southern African forwarding association

It was disappointing to note from your April 27 article (Southern Africa forwarding association gets a kick-start) on the Federation of Clearing and Forwarding Associations of Southern Africa (FCFASA) that your correspondent made no effort to contact the leadership of the Federation – all of whom were at the February meeting which quoted commentator Barney Curtis attended.

The Federation has been in its current form since April 2010 when the first general and executive committee meetings were held in Lusaka, Zambia.

Readers may recollect that some years ago a similar body representing the F&C industry regionally was headquartered in Harare, Zimbabwe under the

leadership of Ed Little, then the executive officer of the SA Association of Freight Forwarders (Saaff). That body became moribund when sponsorship funds from US Aid were no longer available.

Since its inception, the current president of FCFASA, Joseph Musariri, who is also CEO of the Shipping and Forwarding Agents' Association of Zimbabwe, along with colleagues from the region, has made considerable efforts to strengthen the Federation. These have culminated in the involvement of Trade Mark Southern Africa which is assisting with both finance and expertise.

The Federation, which continues to be headquartered in Harare, met

in Boksburg during April, where eleven of the fifteen regional countries were represented and a five-year business plan which defined the strategic objectives of the Federation was developed.

These objectives include enhancing the current level of advocacy with regional states, customs administrations and other bodies; improving all forms of communication channels between both regional associations and their corporate membership, and most importantly developing training capacity to improve skill levels in supply chains throughout the region.

Saaff has been intimately involved with FCFASA for the past two years and is providing direct assistance in establishing training programmes and

in web site development. Saaff's regional consultant was vice-president of the Federation up to this year's annual general meeting (AGM), when a colleague from Zambia took over this position. It continues to have a seat on the executive committee.

The ultimate success of the Federation will depend not only on support from regional associations but on the corporate membership of those associations. Such success will be apparent in improved trade facilitation region-wide, on better and faster border processing, on the reduction in non-tariff barriers and finally on the improved level of skills in the F&C industry.

*Dave Watts, maritime adviser to Saaff.*

## Namibian companies train for the future

BY Ed Richardson

The Namibian logistics industry is training for the future through the Commercial Advancement Training Scheme (CATS).

Adapted from the German Dual System, CATS integrates theoretical learning with practical experience within the workplace.

Students alternate between classroom theory and seeing it put into practice in the workplace through hands-on experience over a period of two years.

Its courses are accepted and recognised by the European Union through the German Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The programme, which was founded in 1985 by the Southern African-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry, was introduced to Namibia in 2005.



FTW5107

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FTW5576



# DCT outlines plans to cope with 400 000-TEU overflow

BY Alan Peat

Will the relocation of transshipment containers to other ports help ease the expected overflow of 400 000 TEUs a year at the Durban container terminal (DCT) Pier 2? That's a question of some considerable speculation amongst FTW contacts in the Durban freight industry.

Recently released news indicated that Maersk/Safmarine was moving container transshipments to the port of Dubai in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) – and this could be added to the move by MSC to shift its transshipments from Durban to the deep-water port of Ngqura in the eastern Cape. This led to estimates being bandied around that over 200 000 TEUs a year might be

removed from the overflow because of these two moves.

But that's not the case, John Hyde, Transnet Port Terminals (TPT) assistant terminal executive (planning), told FTW.

'Suitable cost mechanism will be in place to offset cost of moving reefer boxes of fruit to PE/Ngqura rather than Durban.'

Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC), he said, was the port's largest transshipment customer by far. And its intention to move 100 000 TEUs a year to the new deep-water port of Ngqura in the Eastern Cape, was already taking place.

Maersk/Safmarine, he added, was only a small player in Durban's transshipment business, and any contribution they could make to relieving the overflow would be equally minimal.

This was confirmed by Kerry Rosser, Maersk Line's communications manager.

"We are not moving transshipments from Durban to Dubai," she told FTW, "and the port still remains our hub." The adjustments the line is making to relieve the overflow, she added, like SA-West Africa transshipments moving to Maydon Wharf rather than DCT, are all small contributions to the total.

Hyde also supplied FTW with TPT's summary of diversion cargo, detailing just how it intended to

move the 400 000-TEU overflow away from DCT.

Those moving inter-terminal in Durban will be 150 000 TEUs going to the alternative container terminal at the Point and 60 000 going to Maydon Wharf, for a total of 210 000 TEUs.

That leaves a total of 190 000 TEUs that need to be diverted to other ports. TPT plans that 60 000 TEUs of Europe rail cargo will go to Port Elizabeth and Ngqura container terminal (NCT) while the diversion of transshipments to NCT will total 100 000 TEUs (mostly MSC boxes).

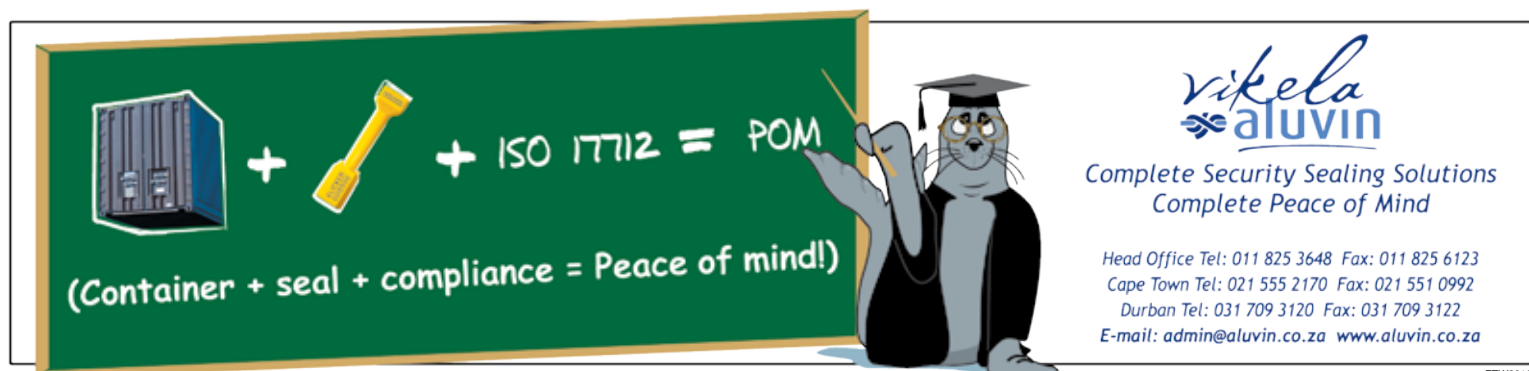
The remaining 30 000 TEUs of the overflow, Hyde added, will have to be absorbed by berths at Piers 1 and 2.

"Maydon Wharf additional capacity only becomes available in

September," he said, "therefore 45 000 TEUs (of the 60 000) needs to be absorbed at existing berths until then.

"This means that each of the existing berths needs to absorb 890 TEUs (614 containers) per month until September. Thereafter, only 350 TEUs (250 containers) per month need to be absorbed by each of the existing berths."

Questioned about complaints by the likes of the citrus growers – most of whom are based in Northern Kwa-Zulu Natal and Mpumalanga – about the extra cost of moving reefer boxes of fruit to PE/Ngqura rather than Durban as presently, Hyde said: "A suitable cost offset mechanism is to be in place". But, despite persistent pressure, he would add no more detail.



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## AFRICA BEAT

# Bridge to invest in Beira warehouse

Plans by the Bridge Shipping Group to acquire a warehouse facility adjacent to the Port of Beira in Mozambique will offer customers a choice between the ports of Durban and Beira.

“By carefully analysing seasonal price adjustments in terms of port fees, customers will be able to plan their deliveries around the most effective port option, thus saving them money without incurring delivery delays,” CEO Colin Emanuel said when he announced the development last week.

Situated 300 metres from the port gates, the warehouse will provide a fully fledged bouquet of offerings to the market, deploying a fleet of 2.5-ton forklifts with clamp machines, supported by a

well-trained complement of employees, he added.

“We have been a port user in Beira for the past 20 years and we have always had a representative office there,” said Emanuel. “In the past, the draught at the port entrance was too shallow to effectively move large volumes in or out of the port thus not justifying the type of investment required. When the harbour was dredged to a depth of 11 metres some 18 months ago, it resulted in increased efficiencies and volume throughput at the port. We therefore took the decision to source a suitable tract of land to develop a comprehensive facility in Beira.”

The construction of the 7 200 sqm warehouse, together with a 9 000 sqm yard and 250 sqm office will



Colin Emanuel ... ‘Customers will be able to plan their deliveries around the most effective port option.’

provide Bridge with a solid presence in Mozambique, he said. “We will leverage our facility in Beira to maintain and increase our presence in Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe.”

## Reverse logistics saves used equipment from landfills

BY Ed Richardson

Windhoek-based Transworld Cargo is helping global manufacturers of office equipment to “take back” their equipment at the end of contracts/life cycles.

“Companies are using reverse logistics as part of their corporate commitment to prevent used equipment from ending up in landfills,” says Frank Gschwender, business development manager of Transworld Cargo.

“We collect the equipment from the customer on behalf of the original equipment manufacturer, pack it and ship it out,” he says.

The company is also leveraging its logistics infrastructure to recycle



Frank Gschwender ... recycling e-waste.

‘e-waste,’ which includes “everything with a plug”.

Computers, laptops, printers, and the like all have components which can be recycled through what is essentially a value-added logistics process in which they are stripped and sorted for reprocessing.

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FTW4966b

# DCT beefs up staff and productivity

BY Alan Peat

Durban Container Terminal has introduced several initiatives to beef up employee performance, DCT terminal executive Hector Danisa told FTW last week.

It plans to review executive committee (Exco) management and the technical structure, close all vacancies and introduce mentorship and mission-directed teams and inter-shift competition.

"We are focusing on the so-called 'softer' issues now," said Danisa, "namely intensifying efforts to improve employee productivity, boost morale, reduce absenteeism, improve safety, and inculcate a real performance culture across the terminal."

But, for port users, probably the most visible effects have been increases in the number of the gangs working at DCT Pier 2 and Pier 1.

The plan for DCT Pier 2 was to man 15 gangs, and 150 people were recruited in what is intended to be a continuing process designed to do away with casual labour and replace it with permanent roles in the terminal.

"DCT has beefed up its human resources," Danisa told FTW, "with around 200 new employees introduced into operations, especially as crane operators. DCT could now comfortably have 15 operational teams in place."

At Pier 1, meantime, 12 operators of lifting equipment (OLEs) have been



Hector Danisa ... around 200 new employees introduced into operations.

recruited and are currently undergoing training. The resultant six gangs will have the capability to man six STS cranes and two rubber-tyred gantries.

## The facts about Gauteng's toll roads, Saab and Kapsch TrafficCom

Following recent media reports alleging a link between SA National Roads Agency Limited (Sanral) and Austrian e-tolling operators Kapsch, FTW received the following 'fact sheet' from Erik Magni, spokesman and acting press officer of Saab in Stockholm.

- Saab does not have any interest whatsoever in Kapsch TrafficCom and never has had
- Saab has no role in South Africa's e-tolling or Gauteng freeway improvement programme
- Sanip, the jointly owned

company responsible for offset on the Gripen, has no role in South Africa's e-tolling or Gauteng freeway improvement project

- Saab sold its traffic management unit, Combitech Traffic Management, to Kapsch in January 2000
- The contract to supply 26 Gripen fighters to South Africa only came into effect in April 2000
- Sanip was precluded by dti regulations from any participation in infrastructure projects and indeed was not involved in any such projects

• Any attempt to link Kapsch, the Gauteng e-tolling project, or the freeway improvement project to Saab has no basis in fact

- This includes attempts to create such a link by citing unattributed "Australian newspaper reports"
- Any reporter making the effort to ask Saab about its relationship to Gauteng's e-tolling project before writing would have been able to discover these facts.

A copy has also been sent to the Public Protector's office.

### LAST WEEK'S TOP STORIES ON



#### Logistics major fights R513-m fine

Panalpina is to appeal against its recent fine of the equivalent of over R513 million for anti-trust behaviour from the European Commission, reports Lloyds Loading List.

tight-lipped about the reasons for the resignation of Nazir Alli, chief executive officer of SA National Roads Agency Limited. He tendered his resignation at a board meeting last Monday but agreed to continue in his post until June 3.

#### Sars spells out planned interventions to improve compliance

SA Revenue Service last week spelled out its planned interventions to increase customs compliance when Commissioner Oupa Magashula presented the revenue authority's 5-year strategic plan to the standing committee on finance.

#### Multinational intensifies cost-management

Kuehne + Nagel International will continue to pursue ambitious goals, but to counteract economic uncertainties the Group has intensified its cost- and margin management, Karl Gernandt said in his chairman's address at the AGM last week.

#### New restrictions on cheque payments on the way

The South African Revenue Service (Sars) has advised taxpayers that from July 16 this year banks will no longer accept cheque payments exceeding R500 000 from their clients.

#### Sars loses appeal in capital gains case

The South African Revenue Service and National Treasury have lost an appeal against a Tax Court judgement on taxation of capital gains with both parties studying the decision.

"National Treasury and Sars are studying the judgement," Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan said.

#### Sanral CEO Alli resigns

All parties are remaining

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## TPT productivity

### From page 1

proud of its vessels' waiting figures. These have fallen from a figure of about 6.5 vessels waiting for berthing at Pier 2 last August 1 to a figure of only one this month (May 7). There has been an average of less than two vessels waiting for the past three months, TPT told FTW, and there has been a significant trend volume decline for the container sector this year.

TPT also claims success in improving road transport performance in the past year, with fast-falling truck turnaround times despite increased gate volumes.

The performance graph shows that truck turnaround time – the time between entering and leaving the terminal for the loading/offloading of containers – averaged about 55 minutes last April 1, with a gate volume of around 1 520 containers. This has dropped to under 30 minutes on the first of this month, with gate volume about 2 320 containers.

"Truck turnaround time in Pier 2 is averaging 35 minutes for the last four months," said TPT, "and the volume has gone up during this period."

But a number of truckers argue this point, insisting that it indicates the time taken from in-gate to out-gate, but doesn't allow for the possible hours taken sitting parked outside on Bayhead Road waiting to get into the staging area. However, TPT is confident that this will be overcome when it introduces the truck booking pilot scheme at DCT Pier 2 in June this year. (See page 9.)

# Bulker pulls in healthy bid

### BY Alan Peat

An almost-new, 79 000-tonne deadweight (dwt) bulker has just gone under the hammer in Durban, and the final bid was for US\$22.4 million (R176.96 m), a healthy US\$6.65 m (R52.5 m) above the reserve price of US\$15.75 m (R124.43 m).

The MV Newlead Gujarat, a bulk carrier built in 2011, was sold by public auction in Durban on May 3, and bought

by highest bidder, Modion Maritime. The sale price was for the ship hull, including the equipment, furniture and stores on board at the time of the sale. It excluded the cost of bunkers on board, valued at US\$941 308.70 (R7.5 m), which was to be paid separately by the purchaser of the vessel.

According to information released to FTW by maritime lawyer Mark van Velden of maritime, logistics and

corporate lawyers, Van Velden, Pike Incorporated, the ship had been arrested in the Port of Durban after a provisional court order for the sale of the MV Newlead Gujarat was made by the Durban High Court on March 19 on the application of the mortgagee, the Bank of Scotland.

According to Van Velden, this was after a default on mortgage payments by the previous owners, Bethune Properties, which is a Greek-

registered company, and managers of ship management company, Newlead Bulkers. "I recall having read that the whole managed fleet was in trouble," he added.

Gardner van Niekerk SC of the Durban Bar was appointed as referee of the ship sale fund and the bunker sale fund, and any claimants were advised that claims had to be filed with the referee within 10 days of the date of the sale – ie, May 17.

## D-day for input on proposed citrus levy

### From page 1

grower road shows during February this year.

"The CGA board then considered feedback at the meeting held in March – culminating in the proposal that is now being sent to growers."

Like all businesses in SA, the CGA has been hit with rising costs over the past four years, according to Miller, and it feels that an increased levy is vital if the

CGA intends to keep offering the same level of services to growers that it has been providing.

Amongst the services the CGA supplies to growers are research, foreign and local market access information, consumer assurance, information to growers, transformation, transport and logistics.

Approval for the new levy is currently being sought with a referendum sent to all

growers. "Should sufficient support be obtained through the referendum," said Miller, "CGA will make an application through the National Agricultural Marketing Council (NAMC) to the minister of the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Daff).

"This has to be finalised as soon as possible, because it takes anything up to 7-8 months for ministerial approval."

The proposal is that the present levy of 41 cents per 15-kilogram carton is increased to 47 cents in 2013; 50 cents in 2014; 53 cents in 2015 and 56 cents in 2016.

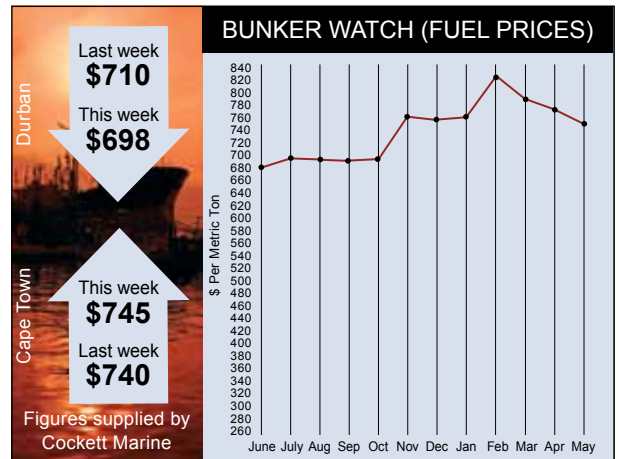
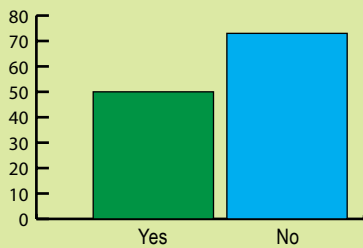
"Swaziland and Zimbabwe growers fund their services from the CGA through a voluntary levy," Miller told FTW. "Once the outcome of the levy referendum in South Africa is known, CGA will discuss the future level of these voluntary levies."

## Poll position

- as voted by readers of FTW Online

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Will President Jacob Zuma be elected to a second term at the ANC congress at Mangaung in December?



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