

MEDIA RELEASE

Discover how the humble shipping container has revolutionised the way we live in a touring exhibition from the Australian National Maritime Museum

Container – the box that changed the world – [9 August - 13 October 2019] at Western Plains Cultural Centre, Dubbo.

In today's global world you may have drunk coffee from Brazil or a smoothie containing frozen fruit from China. You could be wearing clothes made in India, watching a TV made in Japan while sitting on a sofa containing wood from Argentina on a laminate floor manufactured in Sweden. All of this has been made possible by a rectangular steel box – the shipping container.

Container, an exciting exhibition housed entirely in six 20-foot shipping containers developed by the Australian National Maritime Museum, and opening at *the Western Plains Cultural Centre, Dubbo*, will lift the lid on the history and impact of containerisation and the way the humble shipping container has revolutionised the way we live.

The exhibition is being officially opened on Friday 9 August, at 10.30am by representatives from the Australian National Maritime Museum and NSW Ports, the exhibition's major sponsor. Visitors can literally 'step inside the box' to learn about shipping, ports, cargo, the impact of containerisation on the ocean, the origins of everyday objects and even container architecture.

"Container shipping connects NSW with the rest of the world, bringing us everything from the clothes that you wear, to the shoes on your feet, the fridge in your kitchen, the TV in your living room, office furniture and more," said Marika Calfas, NSW Ports CEO, ahead of the exhibition's opening this weekend.

"[NSW Ports](#) is proud to be a major sponsor of the exhibition, which helps explain the critical role ports play in our daily lives and in the economy.

"To date, close to quarter of a million people have enjoyed the '*Container*' exhibition, and we can't wait to share it with the residents of Dubbo," she concluded.

Inside the 'Ship' container, the history of the cargo industry before the invention of the container and the impact of its introduction are explored. From transporting goods in crates, bales, sacks and barrels loaded by hand, the container now allows the world's 1.5 million seafarers to deliver 10 billion tonnes of trade each year.

'Cargo' looks at trade, customs, biosecurity and how perishable goods are transported around the world in the cold chain. The 'Port' container talks about the radical transformation of ports and port cities in Australia and around the world. It also gives visitors a peek behind the scenes at Port Botany, one of Australia's busiest ports and the gateway for 99 per cent of New South Wales' container demand.

'Ocean' looks at the challenges mass shipping poses to our oceans, including lost shipping containers, cargo spills and acoustic pollution, and the current focus on sustainable shipping.

The quirky and innovative ways containers are used beyond shipping, including 'small homes', food trucks, art installations and even swimming pools are uncovered in 'Build'. 'Things' is a glass fronted container with a shop-front style window display demonstrating the origins of everyday objects in our homes. The total number of kilometres travelled by sea by all the products in this container is 887,082 km.

The exhibition has been embraced by the shipping industry with a large number of its key organisations coming on board to provide essential support to tell this important story. Major sponsor is NSW Ports who has played a key role in the development of the exhibition. Sponsors are ACFS Port Logistics, Maritime Container Services, DP World Australia and Smit Lamnalco. Supporters are Transport for NSW and Shipping Australia. The containers are supplied by Royal Wolf and the Precinct Partner is Property NSW. It is supported by the USA Bicentennial Gift Fund.

Container is located on the grounds of Western Plains Cultural Centre, a facility of Dubbo Regional Council. It opens on 9 August 2019, entry is FREE every day from 10am to 4pm and will run until 13 October 2019].

[Monday 5 August, 2019]

Media contact:

For more media information please contact NSW Ports on 0410 597 547 or vida.cheeseman@nswports.com.au



About NSW Ports

NSW Ports manages Port Botany and Port Kembla, key export and import gateways connecting to global markets, and the Enfield Intermodal Logistics Centre and the Cooks River Intermodal Terminal. NSW Ports is a private consortium of leading institutional investors: IFM Investors (including Cbus, HESTA and Hostplus), AustralianSuper, Tawreed Investments Limited and Q Super. Our shareholders represent over six million Australian superannuation fund members and are long term investors with interests in a range of Australian infrastructure assets.