



PNG PORTS CORPORATION LIMITED

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MEDIA RELEASE

19th January, 2008

For immediate release

Wewak Wharf is fully operational

The Wewak Port is fully operational and PNG Ports Corporation Limited is not responsible for the inability of the vessel (Northern Contender), the tanker chartered by InterOil Limited to come alongside and discharge its cargo which consisted of refined petroleum products.

This is in response to media speculations that PNG Ports was responsible for the vessels inability to berth at Wewak Port.

Given the amount of distorted statements made in the media in recent times including what appears to be sensationalized journalism, it is important that these misleading reports be corrected for the purposes of the public and the stakeholders of PNG Ports.

The responsibility of PNG Ports is simply to provide wharf and berthing facilities including pilotage services in the declared ports it manages; not to direct vessels to come alongside against the will of their Captain or owner(s) if they desire not to.

The facts surround the inability of the Northern Contender to berth in Wewak are as follows:

- PNG Ports took every action necessary to prepare the Wewak Overseas berth for the vessel to come alongside including supplying one of its pilots to accompany the vessel from Kavieng to Wewak.
- New tyre fenders were placed along the berth face including three yokohama fenders sourced from the nearby fishing company.
- A tug boat was brought in from Madang to assist with berthing.
- A senior management team including an Engineer was dispatched to Wewak to deal with this issue.
- The team after thorough inspection of the overseas berth concluded that the berth was structurally sound for the vessel to come alongside and that message was conveyed to the Captain of the vessel.

However, for reasons only known to the Captain and the owners of the vessel, the captain of the vessel refused to come alongside.

PNG Ports strongly rejects in all material respects any assertions made to the extent that it (PNG Ports) was responsible for the inability of the vessel to berth and discharge its cargo-any such assertions are simply false, misleading and do nothing to factually inform the public about the true state of affairs at Wewak Port.

It is simply an issue between InterOil and the ship owners and not PNG Ports.

PNG Ports Corporation Limited wishes to advise all shipping agencies and other port users that the port is fully operational.

Authorised by:



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Chief Executive Officer

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