



PNG PORTS CORPORATION LIMITED
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MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release

EXPLOSIVE CHEMICALS NOT WITHIN PNG PORTS' PREMISES

About 12 tonnes of explosive chemicals ammonium nitrate reportedly stored less than 30m away from diesel fuel drums and exposing an explosive threat to Lae City were not within the Lae Port's premises but in a private premises.

The front page picture of a container yard which ran on the National newspaper on Friday, 16/01/09 gave a wrong impression that these highly explosive chemicals were within PNG Ports Corporation Limited's premises.

PNGPCL would like to advise the public including the shipping agents and other port users that the organization is committed to operating at the highest standards to protect the health and safety of its workers, the public and the environment.

Activities within the Ports are in compliance with the Explosive Act Chapter 308, Explosive Act (adopted) Chapter 309, Inflammable Liquid Act Chapter 311 and Poisons & Dangerous Substances Act Chapter 231 which all constitutes the handling and transportation of these highly Inflammable Liquid and Dangerous Goods including other international conventions.

The CEO of PNG Ports Corporation wishes also to put importers of dangerous goods and substances on notice that we will not hesitate to refuse to handle Dangerous Goods and/or explosive substances should we consider that the volumes of the dangerous goods/substances exceed an acceptable safe level at which we believe may be beyond the agents and/or importers ability to handle in a safe and secure manner after leaving our wharves. We will at all times restrict throughput to ensure the public, citizens and staff of our corporation are not subjected to unacceptable risks.

Importers and Import Agents should contact PNG Ports Corporation's Chief Operating Officer to understand what we believe is acceptable volumes of Dangerous Cargo.

Authorised by :

Mr. Brian Riches
Chief Executive Officer

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