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MEDIA RELEASE

LPC WELCOMES TWO NEW SHIPPING SERVICES

Break-bulk volumes at Lyttelton Port of Christchurch (LPC) are expected to increase thanks to the addition of two new services. Post earthquake, demand for break-bulk cargo such as steel has been growing as the rebuild of Canterbury moves forward.

Chief Executive, Peter Davie says the arrival of two new services is important for the port.

“The Port is a vital link to the rebuild of Canterbury and having regular conventional services such as these play an integral part. We continue to consolidate growth in this area largely due to the result of strengthening relationships and support from our customers,” he says.

Early December 2012 Cargo Concepts and Austral Asian Line (AAL) announced the commencement of their North Asian service direct into Lyttelton. AAL offers a break-bulk service with calls into Lyttelton and Tauranga, providing a direct link with Asia and Australia.

Cargo Concepts Managing Director Elizabeth Bentley says, “The addition of Lyttelton provides the only direct liner break-bulk service between North Asia, Australia and Lyttelton, and the port coverage offered, coupled with the heavy lift and out of gauge capability of the vessels, will provide an important link to the region.”

Swire Shipping has expanded its service offering with a monthly call to Lyttelton included on its multi-purpose Trans Tasman service.

Swire Shipping’s Trans Tasman service (TRT) Line Manager David Knowles said “Increased requests and demand in the Canterbury region had underpinned the service change. This monthly call will provide a reliable and sustainable supply chain to feed the redevelopment of Christchurch.”

Important contributors to attracting these services were due to recent changes at LPC which opened up Wharf No. 7. Essentially the yard area around the wharf provides both customers with a substantial work area for break-bulk storage and receipt and delivery.

The *AAL Pusan* is scheduled into Lyttelton on Thursday 21 March with the *Tasman Sky* due to arrive on Tuesday 26 March.

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