



# QUEENSLAND BRANCH NEWS

NEWSLETTER of the QLD Branch of the MARITIME UNION of AUSTRALIA

73 SOUTHGATE AVE., CANNON HILL 4170 - Phone: (07) 3395 7215 - Fax: (07) 3395 7688 - Email: muaqld@mua.org.au

*To be truly radical is to make hope possible, rather than despair convincing - Raymond Williams* No. 149 – 14 September 2018

**NSS EBA Report Back – RTM Weipa Member Meeting - Another Straddle Carrier Death  
Father of Two Dies at Dublin Port – 20,600 TEU Giant - Smart Rope Steals the Show - Cartoon Corner**

## **NSS EBA Report Back**

*by Bernie Farrelly – National Lead Organiser*

AFTER OVER TWO and a half years the Northern Stevedoring Services (NSS) Enterprise Agreement has been completed and endorsed by a majority of the workforce. NSS employs MUA wharfies in Cairns, Townsville, Mackay and Gladstone. Negotiations were made difficult after the company lost a number of contracts which resulted in two rounds of redundancies including the loss of nine permanent positions leaving the majority of the workforce as casual positions.

The primary issue over the bargaining period was the company's claim to remove the 1970 classification where the salary included an additional 150 overtime hours P/A. Members were reluctant to agree to a reduction in salary and working hours to 1820.

With the removal of the 1970 classification, agreement has been reached for any current 1970 employees to have the ability to work up to 1970 subject to a commitment to be available to work. Superannuation will also be paid up to 1970 if worked.

The new EA includes a number of newly negotiated benefits including a 30 hour per week (1560 P/A) permanent classification. The 1560 classification includes all the benefits of an 1820 permanent employee and a minimum grade three rate. In addition, 1560's who nominate to work up to 1820 hours will be allocated before casuals to provide the ability to reach 1820, with full superannuation paid, and once reached will have the option of becoming a permanent 1820.

The new QUBE Economic Clause is also included in the EA. This clause commits the employer to negotiate a number of options to mitigate against forced redundancy's in significant downturns in work such as loss of contracts as well as the increase in permanent positions where work has increased. This clause has resulted in thirteen new permanent positions in QUBE Brisbane and nineteen in Port Kembla.

As a result NSS has committed to upgrading five casual employees to 1920 and eight casuals up to 1560.

The ballot had to be run twice after the FWC determined NSS had sent out the wrong Notice for Representation Rights before bargaining began in 2016.

The union committed significant national and branch resources into this long campaign and thanks the many members and delegates who assisted and supported each other over this difficult period.

## **Members Meeting on the RTM Weipa**

*By Paul Petersen – Assistant Branch Secretary*

THURSDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2018, we held a member meeting on the RTM Weipa in Gladstone.

Part of the discussion focused around the role of the IR/Caterer on board and their actual job in details. As well as how the struggle with Rio Tinto is going to get more Australian crewed vessels on the Gladstone to Weipa run and how the State Government's inquiry into shipping will roll out and what will it mean for MUA Seafarers and Wharfies.



The crew on the RTM Weipa also heard about Mark Bushy Lang's daughter Grace who yesterday, has undergone major brain surgery to remove a tumour.

Grace unfortunately has not been able to work for many months now, so the crew from the RTM pledged \$1000 to Grace from their rolling fund.

## **Another Straddle Carrier Death**

Once again, late word has come outlining yet another straddle carrier turnover, resulting in the death of yet another longshore worker. This time at the Japanese Port of Kitakyushu.

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**Authorised by Bob Carnegie, Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) Queensland Branch Secretary**

**73 Southgate Avenue, Cannon Hill QLD 4170**

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At 3.10pm on 1 June 2018, at Mojikato Tachiura, while carrying the 20 containers scheduled to be shipped, the straddle carrier rolled while turning the curve near the quay wall, and the driver was emergency transported, however a death was confirmed at the hospital the worker was transported to at 5.00pm the same day.



Port of Kitakyushu is the main port in Western Japan area, also the international distribution base to Asia and all over the world.

No further information is presently available but given the increasingly fatal string of straddle carrier turnovers being experienced at marine terminals worldwide, we hope all relevant parties are fully appreciative of the magnitude of the problem.

### Father of Two Dies at Dublin Port

Sourced from: <https://www.independent.ie/irish-news/father-of-two-dies-in-workplace-accident-on-pier-at-dublin-port-36985451.html>

A FATHER OF two who died in a workplace incident at Dublin Port yesterday has been described as an "amazing guy" and a "top bloke" by friends.

The man, named locally as James Byrne who was in his late 30s and from Lucan, Dublin, was rushed to the Mater Hospital yesterday morning following an accident but was later pronounced dead.



The fatal incident happened at Dublin Port yesterday morning.

Picture: Frank McGrath

While the exact details of the incident are as yet unknown, it is believed work on moving steel beams may have been taking place at the time.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Authority (HSA) is now under way into the accident, while separate investigations are expected by Dublin Port and Mr Byrne's employers.

A friend and former colleague described him as "an absolutely amazing guy". "He was just a great guy, really amazing. I am still in shock at the news. He will be a really big loss," the friend added.

Another friend also paid tribute to Mr Byrne. He said he was "a top quality bloke who always made me feel welcome when I started".

Gardaí and the emergency services were called to Ocean Pier shortly after 11.30am. An examination of the scene was carried out by officers and inquiries are ongoing.

### CMA CGM Inaugurates Its 20,600 TEU Giant

Source: <https://worldmaritimeneeds.com/archives/260267/cma-cgm-inaugurates-its-20600-teu-giant/?uid=95262>

CMA CGM's 20,600 TEU-containership, CMA CGM Antoine de Saint Exupery, was inaugurated today in the Port of le Havre, France.



The giant boxship is the company's new flagship and world's biggest containership flying the French flag. It is also the ship with the longest name in the world.

The inauguration ceremony was led by the French Ministry of Economy Bruno Le Maire and French Minister of Transport Elisabeth Borne. The colossal ship was delivered to CMA CGM in January this year and entered into service in February 2018 on the French Asia Line 1 (FAL 1 service), the longest sea route in the world which connects Asia to Northern Europe.



The ship is 400 meter long and 59 meter wide, which means that it is longer than four football fields and bigger than The Empire State Building and the Eiffel Tower.

The ship features a ballast water treatment system, Becker Twisted Fin improving the propeller's performance, and helping reduce energy consumption, as well as a new-generation engine that reduces oil consumption by around 25% and fuel consumption for a 3% average reduction of CO2 emissions, as explained by CMA CGM.

CMA CGM Antoine de Saint Exupery is one of the three 20,600 TEU-containerships ordered en bloc from Hanjin Subic in 2015. One more ship from the series, CMA



CGM Louis Bleriot remains to be delivered by the end of the year.

Image Courtesy: Flickr-Kees Torn under CC BY-SA 2.0 license

## Wilhemsen's Smart Rope Steals the Show at SMM

Sourced from: <https://worldmaritimeneews.com/archives/260207/wilhemsens-smart-rope-steals-the-show-at-smm/?uid=95262>

VISITORS AT THIS year's SMM trade show in Hamburg, Germany, have been challenged to walk a mile in seafarers shoes and test out Wilhemsen Ships Service's smart rope system.



The rope was put on display at the company's stand and visitors were invited pull the rope and see what they are made of as the system provides real-time pull load results.

The system, dubbed Timm's Smart Ropes, is constructed using the company's Timm Acera range and an embedded load sensor. It provides real time information about usage, tension and overall health of the rope ushering in a new era for mooring practices that have been pretty outdated.

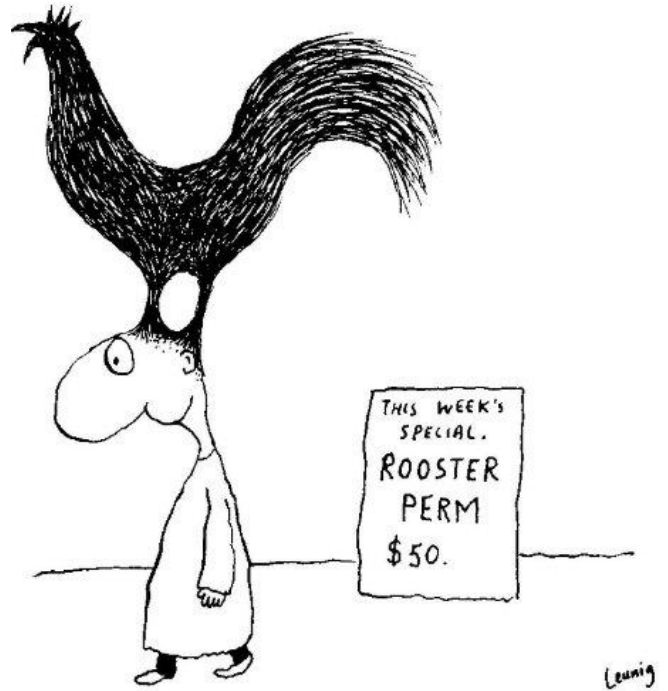
Wilhemsen said that the digital system reduces the




chances of mismanagement prolonging the life of a mooring rope. The system is accompanied by an interactive dashboard intended for the ship's crew, called the Digital Mooring assistant, that provides the information on the state of each rope in real time.

Aside to the smart mooring rope for ships, that stole the show at the fair, Wilhemsen Ships Service presented a host of digital products at SMM today.

## Cartoon Corner



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### Branch Officials Contact Details

QLD Branch Secretary Bob Carnegie

Mob: 0439 478 996

Email: [bob.carnegie@mua.org.au](mailto:bob.carnegie@mua.org.au)

QLD Deputy Branch Secretary Jason Miners

Mob: 0401 211 866

Email: [jason.miners@mua.org.au](mailto:jason.miners@mua.org.au)

QLD Assistant Branch Secretary Paul Gallagher

Mob: 0408 494 168

Email: [paul.gallagher@mua.org.au](mailto:paul.gallagher@mua.org.au)

QLD Assistant Branch Secretary Paul Petersen

Mob: 0404 453 869

Email: [paul.petersen@mua.org.au](mailto:paul.petersen@mua.org.au)

**Authorised by Bob Carnegie, Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) Queensland Branch Secretary**  
**73 Southgate Avenue, Cannon Hill QLD 4170**