**CONTAINER STEVEDORING MONITORING REPORT 2022-23 INDUSTRY PARTICIPANT SURVEY**

Please limit your responses to matters relating to the operation of the container freight industry in Australia.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Company name: |  |
| Contact name: |  |
| Position title: |  |
| Contact email address: |  |
| Contact phone number: |  |

1. Please indicate which of the following container ports are applicable to your business:

[ ]  Adelaide

[ ]  Brisbane

[ ]  Fremantle

[ ]  Melbourne

[ ]  Sydney

**Trends /developments**

1. Briefly outline any new major developments and challenges in your segment of the container freight supply chain over the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, including any longer term trends that continue to have an impact.

For each new challenge, please explain:

* the cause of the challenge
* how it affects your business, and
* whether you expect the challenge to be temporary or long-term.
1. What, if any, are the continuing effects of COVID 19 on your segment of the container freight supply chain? How long do you expect this to continue and what factors will determine this?
2. The Productivity Commission Inquiry report ‘Lifting productivity at Australia’s container ports’ (2022) recommends the repeal of Part X of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth). Please provide your views on this recommendation, having regard to developments in the container freight supply chain over the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023. If you provided submissions to the Inquiry, please only provide any relevant additional information.
3. Did you make a submission to the Inquiry?

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

**Supply chain congestion / disruption**

1. Over the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, did you experience any major disruptions at the Australian container ports?

[ ]  Adelaide

[ ]  Brisbane

[ ]  Fremantle

[ ]  Melbourne

[ ]  Sydney

[ ]  No major disruptions

1. If applicable, what were the main sources of these disruptions and what impact did they have on your business? Specify each port where the issues occurred.

**Shipping Lines**

1. Describe any trends in the contracting with shipping lines that you have observed over the period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 (e.g., in terms of duration, terms, price levels, price structures, etc.). Please explain the drivers behind any trends (to the extent known).
2. Please set out the key factors that influence your choice of a shipping line service for a particular route. Of these, which do you consider to be the most important and why?
3. When choosing a shipping line service, how important to your decision is the Australian container stevedore included as part of the offering (relative to the other key factors you listed in response to the previous question)? Please explain the key stevedore-specific factors that influence your decision. Amongst those factors, how important are the landside charges levied by the stevedore?

If the choice of stevedore or its landside charges are not a key factor, please explain why.

1. Please describe the ease of switching between shipping services before the COVID 19 pandemic. As part of your response, please describe any barriers to switching or any other factors that influenced your decision at the time (e.g., cost, lack of information, availability of berth windows etc.)
2. Over the period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, did you actively consider switching to a different shipping service?

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

1. If yes, did you switch services?

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

[ ]  N/A

Why/why not? Please describe how the ease of switching in 2022-23 compared to your experience pre COVID 19 and explain any differences.

**Empty Containers and Detention Fees**

1. How has the total amount of detention/demurrage fees that you have paid over the period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 changed from the previous financial year? Please describe in terms of % increase or decrease and how this amount compared to amounts you incurred in the financial years before the COVID 19 pandemic.
2. Over the period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, did you experience any instances where detention/demurrage fees were levied by shipping lines in circumstances where the shipping line contributed to the delays you experienced?

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

If so, please explain the circumstances, the proportion of your total detention fees that was due to this and how shipping lines responded to you raising the issue with them.

1. Over the period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, did you experience any challenges with collecting or returning empty containers?

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

If so, please describe the challenges and the likely drivers behind them.

1. List the Empty Container Parks that you primarily deal with at each port that you operate at.
2. Has there been a significant increase in notification fees levied by these Empty Container Parks over the past 10 years?

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

If so, provide (to the extent possible) how much have the notification fees increased over this period and in what year(s) did the most significant increases occur?

What reasons were given by the Empty Container Parks for these increases?

1. If applicable, have you passed on these increases in full to your customers?

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

[ ]  N/A

If “no”, please explain why.

1. What improvements in the level of service provided by the Empty Container Parks, if any, have you observed over this period?

**Final comments**

1. Please provide any additional comments below.
2. Please let us know below if you have any feedback on how we could improve the experience of completing this survey.