



Container Transport
Alliance Australia
Dedicated. Connected. Better.



**SHIPPING
AUSTRALIA**

"KEEPING AUSTRALIA'S INTERNATIONAL TRADE MOVING"
FTA
FREIGHT & TRADE ALLIANCE



Australian Peak Shippers
Association Inc. (APSA)

15 December 2023

Praveen Reddy, Executive Director, Freight Victoria
Department of Transport and Planning (DTP)
121 Exhibition Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000

CC: Samantha McArthur Chief of Staff – Minister for Ports and Freight

Via email: praveen.reddy@transport.vic.gov.au
samantha.mcarthur@minstaff.vic.gov.au

DECLARATION OF DISRUPTION EVENT - Voluntary Code of Practice (VCoP).

Protected Industrial Action (PIA) that commenced in October 2023 at DP World container terminals nationally is causing significant disruption to trade operations through the Port of Melbourne.

Alarming, we understand that recent enterprise agreement negotiations have failed in addressing the impasse, suggesting PIA may continue for an extended period through to Christmas and well into the new year.

From an export and import perspective, delays and costs are jeopardising business viability and are fuelling inflationary pressures, causing reputational harm to Victoria and Australia more broadly as a reliable trading nation.

On behalf of the undersigned peak industry bodies, we request that the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) declare a 'disruption event' and immediately convene a **Disruption Response Group** in line with the framework established in the **Voluntary Code of Practice (VCoP)**.

We trust that this approach will:

1. Increase awareness and transparency of operations,
2. Assist in managing broader supply chain operational responses, and
3. Assist in preparation of clear and co-ordinated plans for action to minimise operational consequences.

Neil Chambers, Director
Container Transport Alliance Australia (CTAA)

Sal Milici – General Manager Trade Policy & Operations
Freight & Trade Alliance (FTA) / Australian Peak Shippers Association (APSA)

Captain Melwyn Noronha – Chief Executive Officer
Shipping Australia Limited