



**2<sup>nd</sup> January 2012**

### **Dredging vessel sinks in the Port of Ngqura**

A dredging vessel belonging to one of Transnet SOC Ltds suppliers sank a few metres from the construction site for the expansion of the Ngqura Container Terminal on 1 January 2012.

The vessel, which is part of the container terminal expansion programme, began sinking at about 2am. Transnet immediately activated its emergency measures and all crew members were evacuated successfully.

We are in constant contact with maritime authorities over the incident and our recovery teams, led by the group chief executive, are on site to address any possible impact on the environment as well as salvage of the dredger. The teams have erected booms around the vessel and commenced draining diesel and hydraulic oil.

Transnet and the manufacturers of the dredger are investigating the exact cause of the incident as well as the extent of damage to the vessel.

The Ngqura Container Terminal has a current operational berth of 800m with an annual capacity of 800000 twenty feet equivalent units (TEUs). The expansion is intended to increase the berth length to 1300m with a capacity of 2 million TEUs per annum. The planned completion date of the berth extension is June 2012.

The impact of the incident on the schedule will be determined once all investigations are concluded. The incident will not affect normal operations in the terminal.

Ends

Issued by

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