

Intermodal Group's Fremantle Port Rail Service tops 100,000 TEU in the year to 30 June 2016

Fremantle Port's North Quay Rail Terminal handled over 100,000 TEU (Twenty-foot Equivalent Units, the unit used to measure shipping container volume) in the year, for the first time in its history.

North Quay Rail Terminal, managed by Intermodal Group, has seen the number of containers handled at the terminal increase by an average rate of 9% every year since 2011.

Intermodal Group's Chairman, Jim Stevenson, commented that increasing rail's share of containerised freight, in a time of declining economic demand, demonstrates the importance of rail and inland intermodal hubs in the logistics supply chain.

"We see rail as the most efficient means for Fremantle Port to grow without causing more congestion and larger trucks on the road. We currently remove approximately 400 truck trips each day, or the equivalent of a line of trucks 13km long.

"This year should be an exciting year for the rail service between Fremantle and Forrestfield, as land becomes available to expand the intermodal precinct in Forrestfield, and logistics providers fulfill their obligations to use rail where their final destination is in its catchment area.

"These two factors should enable the percentage of Fremantle Port's containers using rail to increase from 15% to 20%.

"The other encouraging signs are the Western Australia government's continuing support for rail and its relevance within the "Perth Transport Plan for 3.5 Million People and Beyond," released on 29 July 2016.

Intermodal Group carries the largest proportion of containers by rail of any single port rail shuttle service in Australia. It was established in 2007 in response to the needs of major agricultural exporter, Co-operative Bulk Handling Ltd, and has grown the share of containers carried by rail from 2% to 15%.

Intermodal Group manages North Quay Rail Terminal in Fremantle and Forrestfield Intermodal Terminal containing the largest inland empty container park in Western Australia.

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