

# BUSINESSDAY

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## The Shipping News

### WALVIS BAY

THE government has committed R1bn towards upgrading the harbour by 2015, in a full-scale bid to secure a larger slice of the South African export market.

Also under discussion is an unbroken rail link between the Namibian coast and Gauteng .

### SALDANHA BAY

LATEST National Ports Authority figures indicate the harbour handled 24,4% of the 15-million tons of bulk cargo through the country's ports for March.

### CAPE TOWN

THE bunker barge Pelican has been taken out of commission, meaning bunker fuel is now supplied via the pipeline.

### MOSSEL BAY

THERE were no problems with single buoy mooring.

### PORT ELIZABETH

THE city will host the inaugural South African Automotive Week from October 3-7, reflecting the potential for growing automotive imports via the country's car terminals.

### COEGA

HISTORY looks set to repeat itself as the long-awaited aluminium smelter destined for the Coega industrial development zone again snags on a possible takeover. The smelter now faces another delay as Alcoa makes a bid for Alcan.

An environmental lobby group has expressed its dissatisfaction at the proposal to build the smelter .

The group is concerned about pollution arising from the plant, believing that whenever the north wind blows, children will be exposed to dangerous chemicals.

### EAST LONDON

THE multi-purpose terminal has more than doubled the volume of breakbulk cargo handled through the port. South African Port Operations statistics show that East London handled 123251 tons in the year to March.

#### DURBAN

DURBAN retains its position as the busiest port with t National Port Authority statistics showing 34% of SA's 272680 containers passed through container terminal in March.

The harbour also handled 20% of SA's bulk cargo for the period, while being the top player for breakbulk cargo with 47,2% of the 1,3-million tons handled.

Meanwhile, the Pier One container terminal reopened the first of its three berths this month, having closed the facility in December to enable the conversion of the terminal into a rubber tyre gantry-operated terminal.

The R2bn redevelopment of the Durban harbour includes converting Pier One into a high-performance terminal capable of handling 720000 TEUs by the end of this year. A new tug has also arrived in port . More than 80% of the country's oil imports are handled via this facility.

#### RICHARDS BAY

COAL exports remained buoyant, with the latest National Ports Authority figures indicating the coal terminal handled 50% of the 15-million tons of bulk cargo during March.

#### MAPUTO

MOZAMBICAN railway authority CFM is forging ahead with plans to revive the Maputo Corridor, approaching clients with requests for information on efficiencies and planning.

Maputo Corridor Logistics Initiative CEO Brenda Horne says the impetus for improving the service follows a joint presentation earlier this year with Spoornet to spell out the advantages of the route via Maputo.

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