HAI WIN TRIAL CONTINUES AS LOCAL BUSINESS GET ON BOARD

The second ever Hai Win ship has arrived in town loaded with goods for Darwin businesses - continuing the company’s trial of the new Shanghai to Darwin direct shipping service.

Chief Minister, Clare Martin, said the arrival highlighted the ongoing commitment by Hai Win Shipping (in conjunction with ABX Logistics - one of the top ten global logistics operators) to evaluate whether to develop a permanent two-way shuttle shipping service.

“This is the first ever shipping service between China and Darwin and is an exciting link in our trade route - it has the potential to help keep the Territory moving ahead,” she said.

“The trial follows my meetings in China last year where I highlighted opportunities for such a service.”

Ms Martin said Hai Win Shipping were taking the trial - which will be completed by the end of the year - very seriously and have recruited a full time staff member specifically for this commercial evaluation.

“This is the second trial operated by Hai Win Shipping - following a November 2004 visit - and I understand the company is planning a third trial by mid year,” she said.

“We will continue working together because attracting international shipping services, especially a new North Asia/Darwin direct service, is a specific goal of Government’s Growing our Trade Route Strategy.”

The freight being delivered today from China is a mixture of break-bulk and containerised freight.

The break-bulk cargo includes 800 bags (800 tonnes) of bentonite, 1,000 bags (1,500 tonnes) of barites and 20 pallets (20 tonnes) of calcium chloride.

Importantly, the ship will also discharge the equivalent of 24 standard containers of general cargo for Darwin Businesses. This includes a variety of products including mirrors, trail bikes and fuel tanks.

Ms Martin said that, for this particular trial, the full capacity of the ship has been taken up with Darwin and Western Australian destined freight (the ship docks next in Dampier and Fremantle).

Direct deliveries to the Territory and Western Australia, and deliveries by road and rail to South Australia and even Victoria and Queensland, are important components of Hai Win's commercial evaluation.

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