Chief Minister congratulates Freightlink on first international business trials

The first international export trial shipment by Freightlink could be the beginning of an exciting new era for transport in the Territory. Chief Minister, Clare Martin, said today.

“This trial of 2000-tonnes of freight from South Australia - which will be loaded onto a ship today at the Port of Darwin bound for South East Asia - is a significant step towards the development of new and sustainable international landbridge trade along the AustralAsia Trade Route,” she said.

“Freightlink are expected to conduct a number of import and export trial shipments this year and good results could help promote the railway to international traders.

“These trial shipments are supported by Territory Government's initiatives to develop the new trade route and we are confident that the trials will result in new import and export deals.”

Ms Martin said the Government initiatives to support the train are:

- The development of the Darwin Business Park and securing an almost $20 million dollar investment by Tolls as our first customer.
- Facilitating the establishment of a new international shipping service between Darwin’s new East Arm Wharf & Singapore.
- Undertaking significant strategic market intelligence and research to identify potential customers for the new trade route.
- Conducting strategic Investment Missions (eg. the Chief Minister's Asian and domestic Missions last year and hosting Conferences including the recent Global Freight Connect Conference) to directly promote the benefits of the trade route to potential customers.

“My Government is committed to helping develop this new trade route and associated shipping links,” she said.

“This is highlighted by my business mission to China in April which has a strong emphasis on developing new shipping and aviation links with North Asia.”