



Metroport, Auckland

Top scientists focus on Bay of Plenty coastline

A major research collaboration between the University of Waikato and the University of Bremen in Germany will see nearly 40 scientists research the Bay of Plenty coastline and aspects of the North Sea.

The initiative, INTERCOAST, is supported by Port of Tauranga, Environment Bay of Plenty and Priority One, and has received several million dollars in funding from the German Government's Science Foundation. International PhD students and post-doctoral fellows will tackle projects looking at impacts of harbour development on

ecosystems, protection and utilisation of the harbour and coastline, management of shared and migratory fish stocks, sediment studies and habitat dynamics and opportunities for open ocean aquaculture. Chief Executive Mark Cairns says the Port's involvement in INTERCOAST reflects its belief that the wellbeing of the harbour and coastline is paramount. "We are a major user and we have a duty to ensure the long-term sustainability of our operations, and any other activities in and around the water," he says.

PORT SCHOLARSHIPS GO TO LOCAL STUDENTS

Nine students have been awarded Port of Tauranga scholarships for tertiary study.

The Turirangi Te Kani Memorial Scholarships, which honour one of Tauranga's leading community figures, have been awarded annually by the Port for 20 years. This year's new recipients are: Fonteyn Gear (aged 18), studying at Waikato University; Rachael Hayes (22), also studying at Waikato; Tumanako Hona (18), studying at Auckland University; and Corey Kuka (21), studying at Waikato Institute of Technology.

The scholarship is awarded for up to three years' tertiary study to young people from the Tauranga Moana Trust Board area with tribal affiliation to Tauranga iwi. It recognises not only the community work of Turirangi Te Kani, who died in 1990, but also his services and advice to Port of Tauranga.



(Left to right) Fonteyn Gear, Rachael Hayes, Tumanako Hona, Mark Cairns, Corey Kuka

Five previous recipients will receive scholarship funds again this year: second year students Summer Bennett, Te Paeroa Dickson, Chase Douglas and Rangitahi Kawe, and third year student Jessica Rae.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Port purchase of Tapper Transport to grow MetroPort
- Port customers sign up to CargoConnect
- Customer profile: ZESPRI International
- Half Ironman experience inspires cyclist
- Port People: Terry James, Simon Tapper
- Top scientists focus on Bay of Plenty coastline
- Port scholarships go to local students
- Harbour view improves safety for on-water community

Port purchase of Tapper Transport to grow MetroPort

Port of Tauranga's deal to buy Auckland-based Tapper Transport will help grow MetroPort as an integrated freight centre and distribution hub.

Chief Executive Mark Cairns says importers and exporters will benefit from the efficiencies that the neighbouring operations will bring. "Our customers will be able to take advantage of the proximity to Tapper's warehousing and distribution services," he says. "We can really grow MetroPort and Tapper Transport over the long-term by working together and continuing to provide an exceptional level of service from both companies."

MetroPort and Tapper Transport's location in Southdown positions them close to the origin and destination of most Auckland imports and exports.

Mark says Port of Tauranga had considered investing in infrastructure at MetroPort to offer complementary services. "But it made much more sense to work with the company that is already offering a great level of service and an innovative approach to logistics," he says.

Tapper Transport was also a logical choice as business partner because of its compatibilities with Port of Tauranga. There are many similarities between the cultures of the two companies.

"Tapper's is a family company with long-serving staff and a strong customer service ethic, and we look forward to working

together to grow both businesses," says Mark.

Tapper Transport, which was established in 1984 and operates the largest freight container station in Australasia, offers a wide range of logistics services including:

- Wharf cartage of containers and general cargo
- Inland multimodal container hub
- Container consolidation, packing/unpacking and warehousing
- North Island distribution of bulk fluids
- Integrated transport IT solutions
- Coastal shipping via a shareholding in Cubic Transport Limited.

Unfortunately the deal could not be announced jointly with Tapper Transport Director Simon Tapper, who died on 17 March following ill health. It was Simon and his family's wish to proceed with the announcement. He regarded it as a perfect closure for a career in the freight business that he was so passionate about.

Simon's fellow directors, Chris Tapper and Andrew Scott, will continue to run the company and there are no plans to change its name or services.

See inside for more on Simon Tapper's legacy

Harbour view improves safety for on-water community

Port of Tauranga's live monitoring of harbour conditions is not just a vital business tool – it's also a boon for Bay of Plenty recreational fishermen, surfers and boaties.

enView is a computer system, developed by Tauranga software company Bimaris, for monitoring environmental and operational data from observation points around the Port and Tauranga harbour.

A real-time summary of some of the data is available on the Port of Tauranga website, enabling Port and harbour users to access vital information to aid their decision-making, such as wind direction and speed, wave height and frequency, tide levels and the weather.

Port of Tauranga Manager Operations Nigel Drake says enView was created in 2005 when the Port was looking for a way to gather and analyse environmental data to enable safer and more efficient shipping movements.

Bimaris developed a programme to automate data collection, compare it to historical and forecasted patterns, and generate alarms when operating limits were exceeded.

"This has become an invaluable tool," says Nigel. "We can give our customers better service because our decisions are informed. We can get an idea of where there are problems before they happen."

Making the information available to the public underlines the Port's role as a member of a wider community of harbour users. Tauranga Coastguard Operations Manager Simon Barker says enView is an

important tool for his team. The swell and wind conditions at A beacon are broadcast by Coastguard radio up to eight times a day, along with weather forecasts.

"It's a very useful site. Anybody going out on the harbour, we advise them to look at it first," says Simon. "It gives you real-time information, not just what's predicted to happen."

Port staff also use the system to monitor the wind limits for crane and tanker berth operations. Wind strength and speed is monitored at six locations altogether, tide height at three sites and the current at the harbour entrance is measured. The system even allows remote monitoring of the observation stations' batteries and generators.

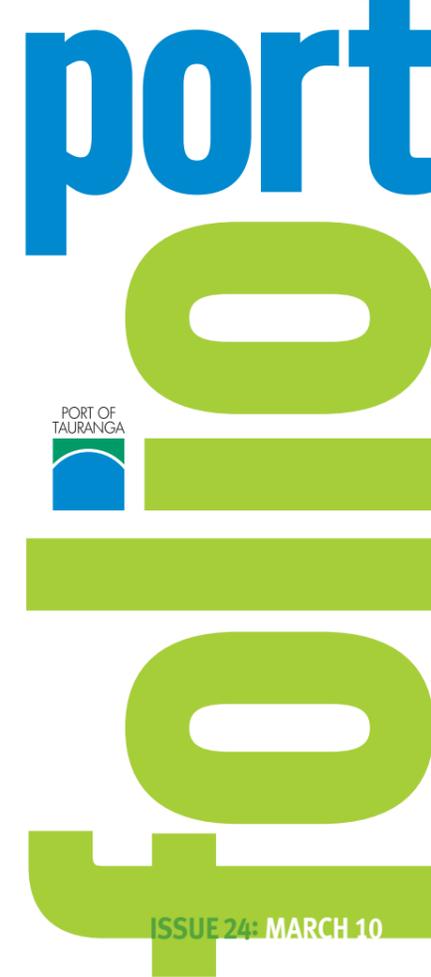
Bimaris Director Brett Wilton says the system has since been supplied to the ports at Napier, New Plymouth and Nelson, as well as some offshore oil drilling platforms and mines.

"The great thing is that it can be customised to users and new monitoring points added at any time," he says.



Harbour conditions are shown on www.port-tauranga.co.nz

Port of Tauranga Limited, Salisbury Avenue, Mount Maunganui, Private Bag 12504, Tauranga Mail Centre, Tauranga 3143, New Zealand
Ph: 07 572 8899, Fax: 07 572 8800, Email: marketing@port-tauranga.co.nz www.port-tauranga.co.nz





Port for the Future

What a fascinating industry we operate in. Less than twelve months ago, it was acknowledged that the Asia/Europe container trade was in severe trouble, with freight rates tanking due to over capacity and the prediction that the industry would take many years to recover.

Recent reports indicate that the situation is already reversing, with shipping lines now slow steaming their vessels, requiring the absorption of a significant amount of extra tonnage. A further consequence of the slow steaming, now occurring in most trades worldwide, is also a shortage of empty containers.

Both the lower capacity on the east/west routes and empty equipment shortages could have ramifications for exporters in this country and we must continue to drive efficiencies in our supply chains if we are to remain competitive globally. On that note, we welcome the Government's recent announcement of the creation of a New Zealand Productivity Commission.

What is evident is that vessels serving New Zealand trade will, over time, slowly but incrementally, get larger and desire to call at fewer New Zealand ports. Port of Tauranga is well advanced in preparations to cater for larger vessels of the future with our dredging consent application being heard earlier this month.

We are also excited to announce another building block towards being New Zealand's Port for the Future, with our recent acquisition of Tapper Transport.

We look forward to working with customers over the coming months to further develop MetroPort Auckland as an integrated freight and distribution hub, ideally located at the centre of distribution for Auckland's imports and exports.

Mark Cairns

MARK CAIRNS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Port customers sign up to CargoConnect

Port of Tauranga customers are quickly signing up to New Zealand's first comprehensive online cargo management system, CargoConnect.

Shipping companies, importers, exporters and border agencies alike can now access a single web-based system to manage all of their cargo movements and information transfer to and from the Port's container terminal at Sulphur Point.

CargoConnect has been well received by the marketplace with a significant uptake since its launch in January. The secure system can be fully integrated with customers' existing IT processes using direct system to system data transfer (B2B), transforming the information flow between shippers, shipping lines and the container terminal.

CargoConnect's functions include:

- Automated carter's note generation and pre-advise of cargo arrival
- Automated data verification, discrepancy reporting and online container reconciliation
- Vessel, customer and pack point-specific data warehousing
- Detailed report generation
- Container auditing
- Reefer-specific functions, including automated checks of time off-power
- Hazardous goods-specific functions
- Empty container releases and depot return advice
- Automated Customs clearance warnings
- Cargo data message generation and distribution.



One of the first users, MAF Biosecurity New Zealand, uses the system to stop, hold and release container cargo requiring biosecurity clearance. Cold Storage Nelson (CSN), another pilot user, has also benefited from additional functionality provided to reefer container pack points.

"CargoConnect allows us to control the movement of containers in a much more efficient way. We can now process groups of containers in less than a minute, instead of taking up to ten minutes," says Alan Kirkpatrick, Team Leader at MAF Biosecurity.

"CargoConnect has given us huge efficiency gains. It has removed that dead time spent ticking boxes...which is a big plus when you're dealing with over a hundred thousand containers a year."

Rozlyn Walker, Administration Manager at CSN Tauranga, says manually writing out carter's notes used to be incredibly time consuming with potential for lots of errors.

"CargoConnect has changed all that. We can enter a booking reference and all the information comes up on screen. We are instantly alerted if any of the information is missing. We can enter the temperatures, the date and the time we've loaded cargo and the system automatically calculates how long it can be off power," she says.

Tauranga Kiwifruit Logistics (TKL) General Manager, Ian Mearns, says any potential delays at the port gate have effectively been eliminated.

"We previously had to fax our carter's note to the terminal office... often our trucks would arrive at the grid before the information had arrived or been processed.

"Now the information transfer is electronic, instant and accurate, giving us faster truck turnaround times and greater efficiency. It has improved the whole process," says Ian.

Port of Tauranga customers wanting to sign up to CargoConnect should contact cargoconnect@port-tauranga.co.nz to obtain a user name and password.

CUSTOMER PROFILE: ZESPRI International Limited

ZESPRI International Limited has broken loading rate and volume records in the past year in a success story built on partnerships.

The kiwifruit exporter and its supply chain partners broke charter vessel loading records twice during the season, and secured its largest ever below-deck shipment.

The success has been attributed to the combined effort of ZESPRI, its growers, post-harvest operators, transport companies and Tauranga Kiwifruit Logistics (TKL) stevedores.

ZESPRI Shipping Manager, Mike Knowles, says the increased efficiencies are a great example of the kiwifruit industry pulling together with its shipping partners to improve practices. New technology was introduced to allow lifting of eight pallets at a time instead of four, skill levels were increased and a team focus was promoted.



Pallets of kiwifruit being loaded at Mount Maunganui

This partnership approach also characterises ZESPRI's relationship with Port of Tauranga.

"We've worked together for more than 20 years and are in regular contact during the season," says Mike. "It's a great example of collaboration – we work together to grow our businesses together."

Mike says one example of the way the businesses are closely intertwined was the response to the financial disaster of 1992. Competition and market factors severely impacted international sales and the New Zealand Kiwifruit Marketing Board reported a trading loss of \$74.46 million. Seasonal funding agreements were breached and the situation was dire for growers.

"Port of Tauranga supported us in every way they could until the industry could get back on its feet," says Mike. Kiwifruit is now New Zealand's largest horticultural export, representing 30 per cent of internationally-traded kiwifruit. The ZESPRI brand is recognised as the world leader in premium quality kiwifruit. Sales reached \$1.45 billion in the 2008/2009 season and export earnings have doubled in the past decade.

"It is partnerships such as the one we have with the Port that has helped steer our industry through challenging times to achieve our current success," says Mike.

Half Ironman experience inspires cyclist



Aleta Newton at the finish of the Port of Tauranga Half Ironman cycle leg

Aleta Newton's experience in her first Port of Tauranga Half Ironman has inspired her to take on even greater challenges.

Aleta, who only started in multi-sport last year, has decided to enter as an individual in the Taupo Half Ironman in December, following her performance as part of the ISS-McKay team.

"I had my doubts I was going to be able to complete the ride but decided I had to give my best shot. I was very happy with how the race went," says Aleta, who cycled the 90 kilometre bike section.

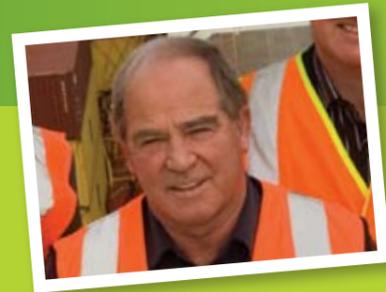
"So it's onwards and upwards to Taupo now. I've got the bug," she says.

Aleta, who works in customer service, trains six days a week, sometimes twice a day. She plans to join the ISS-McKay team, with runner Raewyn Corser and swimmer Dave Taylor, again for next year's Port of Tauranga Half Ironman.

The 2010 event was the 21st annual competition at Mount Maunganui. Many Port staff and customers are among the entrants in what is now the longest running and most popular triathlon in the country.

Port People

Terry James, Corporate Services Manager



Terry James' career has spanned land, air and sea.

Port of Tauranga's Corporate Services Manager worked for the forestry and airline industries before joining the Port 13 years ago.

Terry retires this June and says he is most proud of the inclusive, friendly and co-operative culture he helped develop and maintain.

"While the company is traditionally structured, authority lines are not so obvious and certainly not oppressive. Our people take responsibility for their actions and I like their confidence in challenging something they might disagree with. The debate usually results in a more enduring outcome," says Terry.

"It's a culture that still allows quick and decisive action – which is something that has contributed greatly to Port of Tauranga's success.

"I've felt very comfortable working in this environment, and I know other people do too. It's really important that we preserve it."

Terry has overseen significant change in the sector in his time. In the late 1980s, he was seconded to help implement port industry reform while working for New Zealand Forest Products. Seven years later, he was asked to review and recommend an appropriate structure for Port of Tauranga. He recommended establishing the 24-hour Customer Service Centre and a major overhaul of security. Terry was then asked to join the Company and make it happen.

He plans a long overseas holiday on his departure but Terry's retirement will likely be an active one – tennis, golf, fishing, kayaking and diving will all feature. While he has rejected overtures to take on project work, he doesn't rule it out in the future.

"I have given up hope of getting my dream job as an operations serviceman and will instead concentrate on doing up some property that I own," says Terry.

"I've still got plenty of energy and passion. I'm not one to sit around on the beach doing nothing...I might even get my rugby boots out again," he laughs.

Simon Tapper tribute

The late Simon Tapper had a vision of the future of the Auckland container market.

His fellow Tapper Transport directors, Chris Tapper and Andrew Scott, say he saw the company's sale to Port of Tauranga as an exciting next step into the future.

"For years Simon's pet project had been his vision for the development of the Southdown/MetroPort site as a key part of Auckland's freight infrastructure."

"He saw that the physical location of the two adjacent facilities in the centre of 80 per cent of Auckland's importers and exporters would give our clients the most cost effective and efficient service possible," says Chris.

"He had no doubt that the project would form an essential part of Auckland's freight infrastructure."

Chris says the close alignment of the cultures of Port of Tauranga and Tapper Transport, and their shared vision, made the choice easy.

"Simon felt that the formation of this partnership had been a breath of fresh air in what had been an extremely trying time for importers and exporters."

Simon Tapper was one of the logistics industry's most respected and charismatic leaders.

He was a chartered member of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport for 17 years, where he was known for his calm and positive leadership style and his willingness to mentor anyone who needed it.

Simon was on the Road Transport Forum board from 2005 and was its chairman from 2008 to 2009. He was a regional committee member of the New Zealand Road Transport Association, representing the association on the National Road Carriers Board. He was a recent member of the Auckland Regional Transport committee and was also involved in the New Zealand Business Council for Sustainable Development's Freight Project over the past year.

Port of Tauranga Chief Executive Mark Cairns says Simon had the ability to bring people together in a very competitive industry.

With his fellow directors, he built Tapper Transport into a business employing 110 people and operating Australasia's largest container station.

