

Did you know?

- * During the mid-1960's Port Taranaki was the biggest cheese exporting port in the world, all handled conventionally before the age of containerisation.
- * The largest export of logs from this port occurred in March 2015 with 25122m³ being loaded on the "Asia Pearl 1".
- * The largest container ship to call at New Plymouth was the "Messologi" in April 2013. She measured 52181 gross tonnage, was 294m LOA, and had a container capacity of 4437TEU.
- * The largest cargo to be shipped through Port Taranaki was 45046 tonnes (56679m³) of methanol exported on the "Patagonian Mystic" in October 2011.

Report shows full value of having oil and gas industry in New Zealand

A new report by Venture Taranaki has found that the oil and gas industry and its supply chain employ 11,720 people – up from 7,700 in 2010 – and injects \$2.79 billion into the nation's economy – up from \$2.5b in 2010.

and to extend the rigorous health and safety requirements of oil and gas to industries such as forestry.

The Wealth Beneath Our Feet – The Next Steps updates and extends the findings of a 2010 report that defined for the first time the full extent of oil and gas employment and value.



Going beyond the economic and employment impacts the report looks at the production process, regulatory environment, current activity, future opportunities and more. The report aims to increase understanding around the value of oil and gas to the regional and national economies. Since 2010 there has been unprecedented exploration activity, both on and offshore, and shifts in the public perception of the industry. Exploration interest has moved to a number of new frontier communities, and prospectivity remains positive around the new basins. There are opportunities to use the skills and innovation of the industry in other sectors,

"The report underscores that the resources that stimulate economic growth are not those that lie deep beneath our feet, but the people who continue to apply leadership, innovation, and an entrepreneurial spirit to the industry," says Venture Taranaki chief executive Stuart Trundle.

Get the 100-page report online at <http://www.taranaki.info/news/files/1405.pdf> or by contacting Venture Taranaki.

Power Station Demolition Update

The Power Station Project has been in progress for 13 1/2 months. Demolition of the equipment and structures inside the Turbine Hall is complete (see picture) and all five boilers have been cut into pieces and dropped to grade. Approximately 8,000 tonnes of scrap steel has been sold and removed from site with an estimated 15,000 tonnes of steel remaining.

On arrival and assembly of the 550 tonne mobile crane in February, (largest mobile crane in New Zealand) demolition of the Boiler House superstructure commenced. (See picture) To ensure the safety of this phase of work that involves heavy lifts and working at heights,



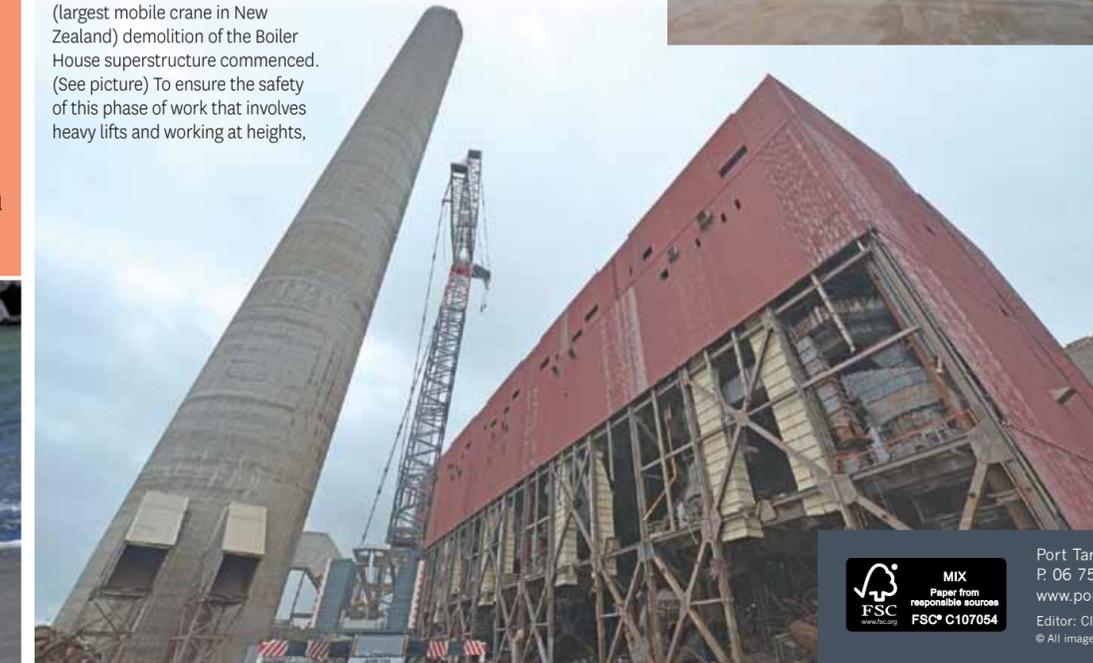
Environment at Port Taranaki

Nestled next to the Sugarloaf Islands Marine Reserve, and with Ngamotu Beach within its breakwater arms, Port Taranaki is not only a bustling port, but one of Taranaki's favourite playgrounds. Already this year Port Taranaki has hosted fishing competitions, yachting regattas, local triathlon and swimming events, the ITU Triathlon and the Weetbix Kids' Tryathlon – all in and around Ngamotu Beach.

The first week of March was Seaweek, and the Taranaki Regional Council took snorkelling sessions off Ngamotu Beach, exploring the sea life in our harbour. They found a surprising range of fish, starfish and even the odd jellyfish in the rocks and sand just off the beach.

With such public interest in the waters around our harbour, balancing the demands of the Port's operations and the protection of the environment around it is one of Bridget Harrison's most important jobs.

Bridget is a Civil/Environmental Engineer in the Port's infrastructure team. She is also the Port's Environmental Manager, responsible for ensuring that the Port's operations comply with the Regional Council requirements. With so many different commercial operations, this can be a challenge!



Meet our new operations manager

New operations manager **Alistair Simmers** has long been familiar with Port Taranaki.

He's worked for Liquigas and Methanex, two key customers of the port, but says his knowledge of the port was limited.

"When you delve into it, there's a lot that goes on here. For me it was time for a change after seven years at Liquigas, and I'd always liked the look of the port, and it's profile. I'd always enjoyed my dealings with the staff here and I've always been aware they've got some very good people."

After five weeks as part of the commercial team, Alistair says he's already enjoying it immensely.

"My role is land-based operations, looking after security, the cargo handling team, logs and, of course, the tanker terminal."

Alistair is a process engineer by trade. "Essentially I dealt with chemicals and chemical reactions. I spent a lot of time at Methanex working on the process of how natural gas was converted into methanol."

Alistair is married with three children and a baby on the way, so there's not much chance of him getting bored.

"I grew up in Tapanui, in West Otago, and arrived in Taranaki 20 years ago. I worked for the Lactose company and lived in Hawera for two years before shifting to New Plymouth to join Methanex."



In announcing Alistair's appointment, Guy Roper said he was pleased to welcome Alistair to the position of Operations Manager.

Alistair was recently involved in completing safety cases for the Liquigas facilities at Dunedin and New Plymouth so is well versed in the demands of the petrochemicals industry and how the new HSE legislation will apply.

He has been responsible for the safe and efficient operation of the LPG facilities across New Zealand and all that goes with that.

Alistair is a leader with a strong ability to form positive relationships with staff, colleagues and customers alike. He has experience in strategic planning and will be an active contributor to our strategic themes of Operational Excellence and Continuous Improvement.

Upfront

It's a changing of the guard at Port Taranaki and I'm delighted to introduce Guy Roper to Portal readers.

Many of you will already know Guy through his previous role as Commercial Manager at the port, but it is time for a change and I am leaving Port Taranaki in capable hands.

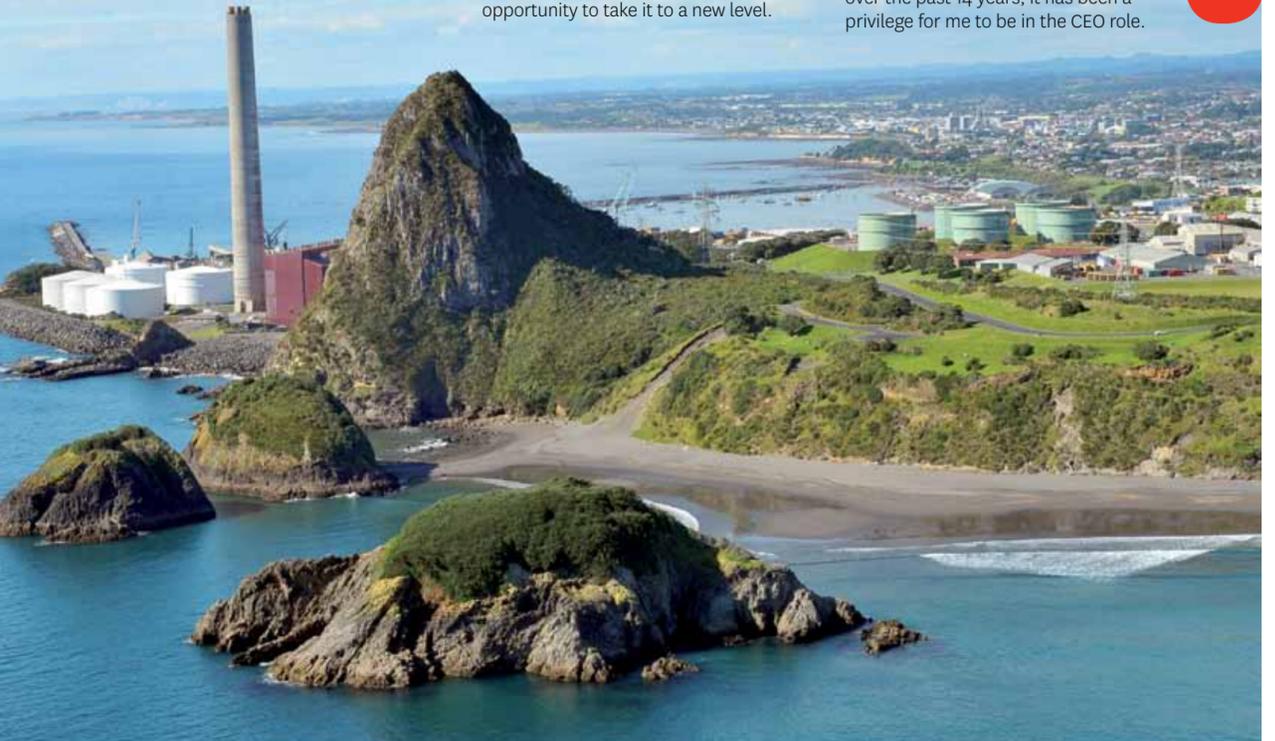
I know people get nervous around change so I really want to emphasise to staff and customers alike that the port is in a very good state, with a good solid balance sheet and running safely and well, which is a credit to you all. You now have the opportunity to take it to a new level.

This change will provide a fresh look at what we do and how we do it. The acquisition of the power station land gives us opportunities we've never had before. The introduction of new mooring technology may finally rid us of vessel exclusions during those equinoxial long wave events.

Change is the nature of this business. There are always new opportunities and I have the utmost faith in our shareholder, staff, customers, and community to continue to support the growth and wellbeing of Port Taranaki.

Thank you so much for your support over the past 14 years, it has been a privilege for me to be in the CEO role.

Roy Weaver
Chief Executive



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Back Beach
photo courtesy of Blanton Smith

A Reflection on Fourteen Years

For retiring chief executive Roy Weaver, it's timely to reflect on his 14 years at the helm.

"I've been really privileged to have this role for that time. I enjoyed coming to work every day and I've enjoyed working with the people here. They've become my friends. I've naturally got mixed feelings about leaving.

I'm happy that I'm leaving the port with record results and in good heart. I look forward to taking up some governance roles including as a New Plymouth District Councillor in this community that Annette and I love".

He readily admits he's proud of several accomplishments achieved during his tenure.

"When I arrived there were a lot of staff here who had not received any recognition of their skills and training. We made a point of putting them through NZQA and ITO training and they can now

demonstrate that they do have those skills. That was something for them, to help them in their own careers. It was also helpful to us because we then had a better handle of what people know and what they don't know. It all leads to a safer port all round.

Fourteen years ago the port had a 10 metre draft, now it's 12.5 metres and that came at a cost of \$25 million. But that put us into the top five ports in the country, when it comes to the type of vessels we can get in. We also have resource consent to go down to 14 metres. So we're future-proofed. Ports die if they aren't prepared to spend the money to develop their facilities and capabilities.

"The \$15m purchase of the power station, before the major project of demolishing and reshaping that site, is further investment in the port. Having other businesses working inside ours does increase the complexity, but we do have a couple of exciting prospects

for that site and should they eventuate it will underpin the port's future and provide diversity of trade. The businesses that do go there will need to be putting cargo across the wharf. That way we get the shipping, the wharves used and land leased.

I was proud for us to win the Supreme Business award at the Taranaki Business Excellence Awards in 2003 and 2008.

"Health and safety has been key. We've had a remarkable run, and in the 14 years we have focussed on improving every day. The troops raised their standard and the culture has changed dramatically. We're still the only port in New Zealand that randomly tests everyone who comes into the port for drug and alcohol. It's common in the oil and gas industry and they've helped us to raise our standards in health and safety.

So a big thank you to everyone, I'll miss you all and wish you well".

It's farewell to "No.1"

Port Taranaki payroll officer Nigel Macneil retired on Friday March 20, after 22 years with the company.

"I actually started on March 22, 1993, so I'm two days short of making it the full 22 years but I'm not working Saturday and Sunday to make it up," he says with a laugh.

And it's that impish sense of humour which has made him such a favourite with the staff at Port Taranaki.

Chief executive Roy Weaver soon found out he wasn't exempt from Nigel's wit.

"Roy came to me to be inducted into the payroll system and give me all of his personal details. I said there is one thing you should know, you are number two and I'm number one. He asked me why and I said "because I pay you."

It's been like that ever since, something Roy readily acknowledges. "Nigel gave me a greeting card recently, which had a big No.1 on the front. I knew immediately what it was about. He said now I am going you better have this back. Even if it is for only three weeks."



Nigel says he's thoroughly enjoyed working at the Port. Asked the inevitable question about the highlights of his career at the Port, his answer is illuminating "I've been thinking about that and the main thing that stands out in my mind is the great people I've worked with. I'll always remember them until the day I go somewhere else," he says looking to the heavens with a smile.

"They're a great bunch of people to work with and the company's been a good one to work for, really generous."

Changing of the guard

Port Taranaki's new chief executive Guy Roper was quick to pay tribute to predecessor Roy Weaver on the eve of his departure.



"Roy has been a great mentor. As I was new to the industry his experience in ports has been very valuable in helping me come to terms with the complexity of a port," says Guy.

"My aim is to build on what he has achieved and one of my key focuses is to ensure that we can grow and maintain our competitiveness."

Guy says he's aware of the potential concerns some employees may have about the changes at the top.

"I've told the staff everyone has their own style of how they go about providing leadership within a business. I'm quite a detailed sort of person, but I also like to ensure there is clarity about our purpose. I think leadership is something that everybody in our organisation can provide."

Guy has been the port's Commercial Manager for the last 20 months and has been aware of the port's succession planning since he arrived in August 2013.

"It's always part of good governance to have succession plans in place – and to successfully come through the evaluation process even though I had to go through some hoops," he says with a chuckle.

ITU New Plymouth Sprint Triathlon 2015



While many will be aware of Port Taranaki's high-profile sponsorship of national provincial rugby champions the Taranaki Bulls, we also support many other sports.

Perhaps the highest profile event is the World Cup triathlon races and on Sunday March 22 New Plymouth played host to a number of the world's leading triathletes at the Quality Hotel International ITU New Plymouth World Cup, a sprint distance race affectionately known as the 'sprint by a mountain'.

With athletes from 41 countries in the mens' and womens' elite races, New Plymouth resembled the United Nations as hotels, motels, restaurants and shopping centres reflected the influx of athletes, coaches and supporters from around the world.



Event Director Terry Sheldrake has delivered the triathlon in New Plymouth for a number of years and said the region is hugely supportive of the event.

"Some people are intrigued that we bring such a high-profile event to New Plymouth, when there are larger and more obvious venues. But New Plymouth is a wonderful host, with great support from the port and local business community and the New Plymouth District Council.

"Quality Hotel, TSB Community Trust, Venture Taranaki and Port Taranaki are dedicated to this region and understand what an event of this nature can bring to Taranaki. The spend from the influx of athletes, coaches and officials alone is considerable, and then you take into account the promotion of the region through media here and overseas and the chance for locals to come out and see world class triathlon in their backyard is invaluable."

While Kiwi athletes didn't feature among the winners, few minded as the event was a huge success with some amazing racing playing out in front of big crowds that lined the Ngamotu Beach course with Kaitlin Donner (USA) and Richard Murray (South Africa) winning gold medals.

our community

Building long-term relationships



Log exporters Paul Burridge and Sally Sisson just happened to be in port as their first shipment from Port Taranaki was being loaded on to ship.

It was purely coincidental, but both agreed it was a special moment.

Paul is the export manager of Summit Forests. "We own 36,000 hectares of forest in Northland, which we bought in March 2013. Our parent company is Sumitomo Corporation, which is one of the four biggest trading companies in Japan, Globally, through its 800-plus subsidiary companies, it employs more than 80,000 people.

Paul says Sumitomo has traded logs out of New Zealand on and off for about 30 years, but have now decided to invest in New Zealand. "We export about 25% of our volume, with our parent company being our main customer."

Paul points out they see Taranaki as being a really good opportunity.

"We have cutting rights to a small forest just out of Wanganui as well, and halfway through last year began looking at exporting out of Port Taranaki. Summit has been accumulating logs at Port Taranaki since January and today (March 21) the first shipment was on its way.

Originally the company's logs were being exported through Napier through an export company but Summit decided the time was right to become their own exporter. "We could see the potential in Taranaki so we decided to do it through them. It works in really well with the volume we have coming out of Marsden Point and goes on to China."

As well as exporting their own logs, Summit is now looking after the export operations for Forest Management NZ Ltd, (FMNZ) which has significant forests around Wanganui.

Sally Sisson is the joint CEO of FMNZ and she says the new relationship is working well. "We manage the Roger Dickie investment forests. Now we've started harvesting, so for us it's really exciting to be able to see this first shipment loaded.

"We've tended the trees right through their lifecycle and to see the first shipment in port ready to go is special. Plus we also start planting again and repeat the cycle all over again. We're new to harvesting so were looking for an exporter, and Paul came along at the right time."

Sally stressed the need to establish long-term relationships in order to return the maximum to their investors and she felt Summit and Port Taranaki were great partners.

our customers

West Coast Challenge – Long Period Waves

Port Taranaki has approved an investment of more than \$2 million to introduce new technology which is hoped will eliminate ship exclusions in the future.

Marine Services Manager John Ireland said the port had always had problems with ships breaking moorings but for a long time didn't understand exactly what was causing it.

However after working with MetOcean the port now understands more out "long-period" waves and the potential for damage and harm. The response of sending ships to sea has caused delays for our customers and we have been looking at ways to overcome this.

European technology has emerged with ShoreTension™ B.V of Rotterdam developing a hydraulic ram system to mitigate the movement of ships under such long period wave conditions.

"Basically it stops ships from surging," Ireland said.

Long period waves, which have a period of up to two minutes between them, were only about 10 centimetres high but could cause ships to move up to 10 metres whilst alongside the berth.

"When a heaving swell from certain directions comes and it hits the reefs off Kawarua and the Sugar Loafs, the waves actually separate out into long-period waves. Once they start you have 40,000 tonnes of steel moving and that momentum is huge," Ireland said.

"The ShoreTension™ solution (which is in use at the port of Esperance in Australia) is to dampen down these movements. If you can eliminate that movement your job's done."

The new Port Taranaki chief executive Guy Roper said four units would be installed ahead of the 2015 Spring Equinox and their performance will be closely monitored with results shared with staff, customers, and shipping agents. This project is an important phase for the next part of the development of the port.



Photo courtesy of Mark Harris Photographer.

The Seaside Market (which started March 2014 at East End) is Taranaki's biggest market. It is held at Ngamotu Beach on the first Sunday of every month between 9am-3pm. There is an amazing selection of more than 80 diverse stalls catering for everyone. Enjoy music, good coffee at this this magical beach market. The market runs all year round.

NAV goes LIVE

Eight months ago Port Taranaki embarked on a journey to replace their core financial system with a much sleeker and more efficient product called Microsoft Dynamics NAV 2015. The key objectives being to put in place a more stable and secure platform, improve the quality of data at our fingertips and improve the ease in which we can access it. It's been a challenging time for those involved however all the hard work is tracking us towards a quality result for Port Taranaki.



SAVE THE DATE
Flannagan Cup 100 Year Anniversary
SAT 6 FEBRUARY 2016