

Press Release from PB Towage

Tug Naming Ceremony at Port of Townsville - 9th August 2010

New Townsville tug contractor PB Towage hosted 100 guests at the official naming ceremony of their new tugs, *PB Leichhardt* and *PB Herbert* in the Port of Townsville this afternoon.

The highly manoeuvrable 29 metre, 5,000 horsepower vessels boasting an impressive 58 tonne pulling capacity represent a significant upgrade in the port's tug capacity as part of a new exclusive towage licence.

PB Towage Group Managing Director, Mr. Charlie Kocherla representing parent company Pacific Basin Shipping from Hong Kong welcomed official guests including Port of Townsville Chairman Ross Dunning, Councillor Dale Last and Ray Burton from the Townsville City Council and John Carey from the Chamber of Commerce. The tug's leading international builder, Damen Shipyards was represented by Mr. Roland Briene of the Netherlands.

The vessels were officially named by their christening sponsors, Mrs. Marilyn Dunning and Mrs. Moira Holden, wife of Port of Townsville CEO Barry Holden. Mrs. Maryanne Milne also named a third new tug, *PB Endeavour* in the same, time honoured ceremony to the applause of many PB Towage crew and Port of Townsville Marine Operations staff.

Managing Director of PB Towage Australia, Tony Cousins, explains:

"We thank our lady sponsors, compliment the Port of Townsville on their vision for change and look forward to working closely together with them and other stakeholders, including Maritime Safety Queensland to provide the safest, highest quality service to port customers. In doing so, we welcome the new Townsville crews to the PB Towage team and will continue to invest in their training and development to ensure we keep pace with worlds best towage practice."

"These are beautiful vessels of the highest quality. The tugs are ideally suited to the harbour towage task in Townsville and additionally provide critical emergency towage and salvage capability to the waters of North Queensland and the Great Barrier Reef."

Further information; Tony Cousins 02 9695 0706 / 0412 824 631 Email: tcousins@pbtowage.com

