

MEDIA STATEMENT

TNPA WORKING TO IMPROVE MARINE CRAFT AVAILABILITY IN THE PORT OF DURBAN

[Durban, South Africa, 30 January 2023] The Port of Durban has put in place mitigation plans to improve marine craft availability in the port, following a number of breakdowns on its tugs in the past week.

The port is working to ensure minimal impact on operations and to bring the tug availability back to normality. As at 27 January 2023, tug availability averaged three tugs, instead of the normal five.

Tug Indlazi has been deployed from the Port of Ngqura to increase marine craft availability, with the tug expected to reach the port by Tuesday, 31 January 2023. This will increase the number of available tugs to four. One tug is currently in dry dock completing a Hull Certification. Once completed - expected to be on 1 February 2023 - this will increase the total number of available tugs available and enable the port to adequately service vessels berthing at the port.

In the medium-term and to create spare capacity; tugs Palmiet, Pholela and Umsunduzi – which are currently getting an overhaul on their propulsion units - are expected to be back in operation by the end of April 2023.

The Port of Durban is also in the process of acquiring two second-hand tugs, with a maximum age of five years, which are expected to be delivered by August 2023.

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About Transnet National Ports Authority



Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) is one of six operating divisions of Transnet SOC Ltd. The National Ports Authority is responsible for the safe, effective and efficient economic functioning of the national port system, which it manages in a landlord capacity. It provides port infrastructure and marine services at the eight commercial seaports in South Africa – Richards Bay, Durban, Saldanha, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, East London, Mossel Bay and Ngqura. It operates within a legislative and regulatory environment and is governed by the National Ports Act (Act No. 12 of 2005). For more information visit www.transnetnationalportsauthority.net.

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